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Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

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# 'Nothing wrong with Fiji trip'

By FRAULEINE VILLANUEVA-DIZON
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REPORTER

Officers of the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. board who were among those who went to Fiji with Gov. Ralph DLG Torres last week said they see nothing wrong with the trip they attended.

CUC board chair Adelina Roberto and secretary Chris Concepcion told *Saipan Tribune* that the trip was a "learning trip" and a "fact-finding mission."

"We left here with the understanding that we are going to see the different alternative energy that the Fiji Electric Authority has, and how viable and economical it is to operate," Roberto said.

"I don't think there is anything wrong with the trip. I think it is more

See NOTHING on Page 4

## Torres: Claims against govt are liabilities that will be addressed

By DENNIS B. CHAN
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REPORTER

The CNMI government is responsible for the millions of dollars in claims against it and will work to address these ongoing liabilities, Gov. Ralph DLG Torres told *Saipan Tribune* last week.

Torres

Referring to a 2013 law to authorize the CNMI governor to negotiate with claimants for judgments against the government, Torres said there have already been several judgments addressed where a payment plan was worked out.

These payment plans involve offsets of credits on tax liabilities a claimant might have.

"Those have been addressed and therefore the liability has been lessened with the government and we are working on other big judgments against the

See TORRES on Page 4

## Health advisory issued on Zika virus

By FRAULEINE VILLANUEVA-DIZON
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REPORTER

A health advisory was issued by the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. last week following the declaration of the World Health Organization for a "public health emergency of international concern" due to the effects of the Zika virus in Brazil.

**» WHO declares 'public health emergency of international concern'**

WHO director-general Dr. Margaret Chan declared the PHEIC after the first meeting of the Emergency Committee held last week via teleconference.

PHEIC is defined as an extraordinary event which is determined to constitute a public health risk to other states through the international spread of disease" and "potentially require a coordinated international response."

See HEALTH on Page 4

MAKE-A-WISH FOUNDATION GRANTS ANOTHER WISH

## Jasmine flies to HK to be with mom

JON PEREZ

Jasmine Guanzon, center, receives a ceremonial check from T Galleria general manager Milan Rabold, right, and Make-A-Wish board member Eleanor Cabrera during the presentation last week at the Tom Picarro conference room inside the T Galleria office in Garapan.

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

When she wrote to Make-A-Wish Foundation, Jasmine Guanzon asked to have the chance to go to Hong Kong to spend some time with her mother who works there. She got more than what she wished for.

The 18-year-old left for Hong Kong last Saturday to visit her mom, whom she hasn't seen in seven years. The last time she saw her mom, who works in Hong Kong, was in Manila in 2009.

"The airplane tickets are enough but I got more than I asked for. I got more than I deserve," said a teary-eyed Guanzon, who wrote Make-A-Wish when she was 16 years old.

The Marianas High School senior, who is set to graduate after the school year, is suffering from papillary carcinoma—the most common form of thyroid cancer. She has been getting treatment at Medical City in the Philippines.

Guanzon is also set to go to college after graduation after getting accept-

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## INSIDE

**LOCAL**

Mount Carmel School recognized its Parents of the Year for their outstanding volunteerism and commitment to students, faculty, and staff.

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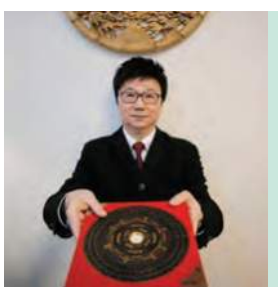

**YEAR OF THE MONEY**

The new Chinese year is the one to go bananas over. On Feb. 8, the zodiac calendar enters the Year of the Monkey—the ninth of 12 animal signs.

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# Local

## Alter City applies for full tax breaks across the board

Tinian casino investor Alter City Group has applied for full tax benefits across the board, or the full amount that the Commonwealth's qualifying certificate program allows.

These benefits, if granted, would not apply to their casino operations, as they have expressed plans to contract these to a third party.

In applying for the tax benefits with the Commonwealth Development Authority, the resort sees the qualifying certificate as part of its long-term investment plan and a "pillar" to set up its total $1.2-billion Plumeria Golf and Casino project on Tinian.

ACG managing director Ken Lin said they are mainly asking for these benefits "during the construction period" of their $1.2-billion integrated resort at Puntan Diablo on Tinian. These will cover all the import and export abatements, among others. "We are not looking for the casino part for QC. It's mainly for developer's tax and export and import tax and also for the BGRT tax," Lin said.

"It's nothing to do with casino," added CEO Edvon Sze. "It's all about projects, building this resort complex."

Sze said they are asking for the qualifying certificate to cover the "entire 25-year period for our lease." "We are asking for whatever CDA is able to give us. But this is subject to CDA board approval. I am not sure how much in terms of the rate or percentage they are going to give us, or in terms of the length of years…But what we applied for is what the law allows us to apply."

### Projections

Alter City has applied for tax abatement for the 2-percent developer's tax and 100 percent off on the business gross revenue, bar, and excise taxes. They also have asked for a rebate of the 100 percent of income taxes during construction and operational phases of its resort for a period up to 25 years.

For the period of the qualifying certificate—from 2015 to 2039—they estimate total tax revenues, for hotel occupancy, wage and salary, and coastal resource management fees paid to the CNMI, at some $1.947 billion.

Tax incentives, if granted, would amount to $1.22 billion. This means the CNMI would realize a net positive tax contribution of $727,036,911.

The Tinian investor group has expressed their intent contract its casino operations to the third party, and have said they will not be directly involved in its casino activity.

ACG plans to lease its casino facilities to this third party, and as a result, the casino's operations, revenues, and expenses would be realized solely by this third party and would not receive a boost from the resort's requested tax benefits.

In 2019, the group projects hotel occupancy taxes at an estimated $15.27 million paid out to the CNMI government.

Within its first five years, hotel tax payments are estimated at $147.43 million. For a span of 20 years, these payments would total some $1.77 billion.

In 2019, wage and salary taxes are estimated to be paid to the CNMI are at $1.5 million. Within its first five years, this is estimated at some $14.73 million and in span of 20 years it would amount to some $168 million.

### Plans

The resort is estimated to cost $604 million within its first five-year construction period. This will need an estimated 5,000 construction workers. The resort estimates the worker's annual wage and salary taxes to amount to some $2.5 million.

Projecting out toward the goods and services paid out by these workers—assuming half of their gross pay goes to these—the company has tallied expenses of about $31.46 million. Assuming a tax rate of 3 percent, local vendors patronized are expected to pay out some $943,000 in BGRT.

A first year payroll of about $28 million is projected for its 955 employees. And at a projected 30 percent of food and beverage cost of sales, the resort will spend a projected $3.4 million on local vendors.

During construction, the casino resort will need a range of 4,000-5,000 workers. In Year 1 of operation—targeted for 2019—the investors plan to fill more than 80 manager and supervisor positions. About 860 non-manager positions will also be needed. Executives have expressed plans to partner with the Northern Marianas College to set up job training programs for the local population.

For the first 12 months, the resort expects to bring in nearly 312,000 visitors in its first year of operations—an increase of 26,000 visitors per month based on the FY'14 data base, or a 700-percent increase on top of FY 14 3,5000 visitors per month.

Beijing, Shanghai, Guangzhou, Tokyo, Osaka, and Seoul—the resort's target markets—lie just four to five hours away.

If their $1.2-billion project is realized, the Tinian population would reportedly double or triple. In light of this, the company plans on opening a healthcare clinic on its property, with services also geared to locals in coordination with the government. And on the education end, the group has expressed plans to set up a foundation to award scholarships to Tinian residents who attend the NMC campus on Tinian.

Alter City has also committed to investing some $5 million in airport and ferry dock upgrades to open direct flights to Tinian or restart ferry operations between Saipan and Tinian. This is on top of their plans for a rapid transit system rail across the near six-mile stretch of ocean between the islands. For this project, Alter City projects a preliminary cost of about $657 million. ***(Dennis B. Chan)***


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# Chinese, Koreans to hold joint Lunar New Year celebration

Tan

The Korean Association of Saipan and the Chinese Association of Saipan will be holding a joint celebration of the Lunar New Year for two Saturdays, Feb. 13 and 20. Their Lunar New Year starts today.

The Korean New Year or Seollal, a three-day family holiday, and Chuseok, Korean Thanksgiving, are two major festivals celebrated by South Koreans.

Performances and other activities celebrating the Chinese and Korean culture will be shown with organizers and officials of Paseo de Marianas Promoters Inc. inviting the community to join them for two Saturdays.

CAS president and Marianas Visitors Authority director Jerry Tan said they are hoping that this year's festivities won't be the first and the last time they do it, as it would surely increase foot traffic and tourist activity at PDM.

"We want to use this activity to attract people to come to Paseo especially at night time. To bring in more traffic at PDM since this is the heart of Garapan," said Tan. We want to have various activities and events for the community and tourists to enjoy."

He added that even shop owners at PDM also made upgrades and other improvements. "The owners are upgrading their structures and reinvesting. I Love Saipan is the latest addition here at PDM."

"There is increased confidence of businesses here and new investors coming in. PDM Inc. is working hard with MVA being a great partner. We are confident that PDM is on the rise," added Tan.

The Christmas in the Marianas Festival was held annually also at PDM along with the Mochitsuki Festival Festival.

The traditional lion dance starts today at 8am at the TSL Plaza in Garapan and the dancers will visit more than 30 business establishments and they would end their performance at the Saipan World Resort at 9pm. ***(Jon Perez)***

## REtroSPECT show cancelled due to cancelled flight

The cancellation of their scheduled flight to Saipan forced REtroSPECT to call off their scheduled benefit concert that was scheduled last Saturday night at the Hibiscus Hall of Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan.

The four-member group was supposed to arrive on Saipan at 8am last Saturday from Guam, where they also had a show at the Sheraton Laguna Guam Resort in Tamuning. But their 7am Cape Air flight was cancelled.

The other flights going to Saipan were already full. They were offered a 4pm flight to Saipan but it would mean that they would perform right away an hour after landing at the Francisco C. Ada-Saipan International Airport.

Producers of the reunion concert, where part of the proceeds would have been donated to ABS-CBN's Bantay Bata International Foundation, had started refunding tickets since Saturday.

Bantay Bata is a non-profit social welfare program that aims to protect abused and disadvantaged children.

REtroSPECT is a retro-pop group composed of leader-producer J. Martin Castro; Em-J who now resides in Naples in Italy; Goldie who now lives in Vancouver, while Ogie stays in Manila. Castro, who is now based in Guam, said they are working on a reunion album.

This was supposed to be REtroSPECT's second time to hold a show on Saipan after also performing in a sold out back-to-back concert with singer Geneva Cruz last June 11, 2011, as part of the celebration of Philippine Independence Day. ***(Jon Perez)***

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# Calvo's Insurance rejoins Chamber of Commerce

Calvo's Insurance is the latest member of the Saipan Chamber of Commerce.

In their monthly meeting held at Aqua Resort Club, the Chamber welcomed back Calvo's Insurance after years of being absent.

"It's really an exciting experience to be back to the Saipan Chamber of Commerce after many years of absence," Calvo's general manager Eli Buenaventura said, addressing members of the Chamber.

Buenaventura said they are rejoining because of the Chamber's new leadership as well as the propagation of business.

"We rejoin the Saipan Chamber of Commerce because we believe in the new direction it is pursuing led by our newly-installed president Velma Palacios and also we believe that the propagation of business that is friendly and beneficial to the community must be protected and must start from here," Buenaventura said.

He added that their company is "ready to get involved."

Palacios reported to the members that Calvo's marketing director Marcia Calvo joined the events committee of the Chamber.

Buenaventura provided a brief background and update of their company.

"Right now Calvo's Insurance is the leading player in the healthcare industry in the region. And in order to keep pace with the growing demand of our customers, we have set up 27 participating providers in the CNMI and we have also arranged provider access to California, to Hawaii, to the Philippines, Japan, Taiwan, Hong Kong, and Korea," Buenaventura said.

Calvo's renowned SelectCare medical plan allows access to more than 100 physicians and clinics in the region, as well as more than 350,000 health care providers in the U.S. and the Philippines.

"Our plans are very versatile. We can tailor-fit plans for everyone in accordance with your budget and needs," he added.

Although Calvo's is only currently only offering group plans, Buenaventura said there may be changes in the future.

"We are considering the options of selling individual plans in the future," he said.

Starting from a small office space in Guam, Calvo's has grown into a "profit-driven, environment-conscious, family-oriented, God-fearing, and law-abiding corporation" with offices Palau and the Philippines, aside from Saipan.

Aside from health insurance, Calvo's also offers the full range of auto, home life, property, marine cargo, casualty, bonding, and liability insurance coverage. ***(Frauleine Villanueva-Dizon)***

## NOTHING

*From Page 1*

of a fact-finding mission. The government invited us to join and as the officers of the board, I think it was appropriate for us to join, the chair, vice chair, secretary, and the treasurer," Concepcion said in an interview.

In a letter dated Jan. 24, Torres wrote to CUC board chair Adelina Roberto to invite her and the CUC board of directors to accompany him to Suva, Fiji "to meet with the Fiji Electricity Authority and discuss financing options that may be applicable for future developments of your corporation."

Aside from Roberto, Concepcion, vice chair Eric San Nicolas, treasurer Joe Torres, Gov. Torres was also accompanied by members of the Legislature on the Jan. 31 to Feb. 3 trip to the archipelago in the South Pacific.

The trip was paid for by the Office of the Governor.

Concepcion said they met with the chairman and chief executive officer of the Fiji Electric Authority and was able to tour their power plant.

"I'm very impressed with the conditions and the way they handle their power plants over there," Concepcion said.

"The Authority operates heavy oil diesel power plant, water turbine, and windmill power. Solar is under independent power producer. Yes it is a learning trip, and gave us the opportunity for first-hand experience," Roberto said.

He added that they discussed issues and challenges encountered by the utilities company including board issues and rates.

"It was a very, very informative meeting," Concepcion said.

However, CUC board director David Sablan—who was not on the trip—earlier expressed his concern that board members who were on the trip constituted a quorum and may have violated the Open Government Act—a concern not shared by Roberto.

"The four board members were all invited to join the governor on the trip to Fiji, and we do not believe that we are in violation of the law. We are all aware of the law that no decisions can be made outside the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands," Roberto said.

Sablan stated that it should be "inherent" to the chair to decline and say that they can't go as a quorum.

"I don't believe that it is necessary for the entire board to go there," Sablan said, "It should just be the chair and CUC should pay for it."

Sablan said the trip was not discussed during their meetings and did not recall seeing the Jan. 24 invitation from the governor. The board had a public meeting last Jan. 21 but reconvened on Jan. 25.

Roberto did not answer when asked by *Saipan Tribune* if the board discussed the invitation in one of their meetings.

While Concepcion did not also recall discussing the trip during the board meetings he attended, he said that it didn't matter how many board members there were on the trip.

"It doesn't matter how many we were there because no decisions were made," Concepcion said.

He said there was "no planning" on any kind of decision.

"No deliberations were made, no decisions were made, while we were on this trip," Concepcion said.

Sablan also raised concerned on how the Fiji trip will affect the possibility of CUC putting out request for proposals for their IRP.

"Whatever future decision we make for CUC it will not be affected," Roberto said.

"It won't affect anything that has to do with the IRP. The IRP still stands as it is," Concepcion said, "We haven't received the final draft of the IRP."

*Saipan Tribune* reported earlier last month that according to acting executive director Gary Camacho, Leidos Engineering LLC submitted to the board a package and that results from their models are already being reviewed by CUC.

## TORRES

*From Page 1*

government," Torres said in an interview at his office on Capitol Hill.

Torres was responding to questions on the government's position over ongoing lawsuits against the CNMI government in the Superior Court over these unpaid judgments against government.

Attorney Michael Dotts, arguing on behalf of claimant, has said that a government that does not pay the court judgments against it is "lawless."

"At the end of the day of those judgments are a liability and our responsibility as a government whether it's this administration or the next," Torres said. "We are trying to address the big ones because of the interest rates that continue to accrue."

According to CNMI government audit documents obtained by *Saipan Tribune*, the government owes money—in many millions—toward land-taking compensation, breach of contract, medical malpractice, and civil right violations claims.

The audit documents are dated February 2015.

One land compensation claim from 2011 amounts to a whopping $11.46 million; another, from 2009, is at $2.12 million; and another land claim, from 2006, at $754,000.

According to the audit document, the CNMI government has paid out $26,415 of a $986,415 land compensation claim against the Department of Public Lands in 2011. However, some $960,000 still remains unpaid plus accrued post judgment interest from 2011 to present that was not determined in the document.

Torres administration officials said last week the judgments against the government might by now tally over $30 million.

For land compensations claims, officials said, the number amounted to about $100 million. Combined, these number tally close to the fiscal year budgets of recent years.

In 2013, lawmakers noted 17 judgments amounting to over $27 million that have not been paid. The earliest existing judgment found then was over nine years old. The lowest judgment was $34,250 and the highest at $5.9 million.

In at least one case, the accrued interest had already surpassed the principle judgment thus doubling the debt of the government for that case.

"The Judgment Settlement Act of 2013" authorized the CNMI governor to negotiate settlements with claimants and resolve the enormous government liabilities. According to the law, settlements may include "offsets and credits on tax obligation" or other obligations of the claimants or members of their immediate family or third parties who may have such obligations and payments of cash from the Commonwealth general fund or other funds set aside for payments of judgments; including all other settlement methods, authorized by law, other than cash as agreed by parties.

## HEALTH

*From Page 1*

This implies that the situation is serious, unusual or unexpected.

"The CHCC Public Health and Hospital Emergency Preparedness Program, in partnership and collaboration with Center of Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), And the World Health Organization (WHO) International Health Regulation Emergency Committee, have advised, that the recent cluster of microcephaly cases and other neurological disorders reported in Brazil, following a similar cluster in French Polynesia in 2014, and in Yap Federated States of Micronesia in 2007, constitutes a Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC)," the advisory said.

One of the main concerns in being infected by the virus is its effect on pregnant women and their child.

Women in Brazil who have contracted the virus during pregnancy were linked to having children who has microcephaly or smaller head circumference, which usually results from abnormal brain development.

A U.S. territory, Puerto Rico, has declared public health emergency after cases of the virus increased to 22.

Tonga, a kingdom in the South Pacific, has declared Zika epidemic after five reported cases.

While no cases are yet reported in the CNMI, CHCC's health advisory encouraged residents to clear possible mosquito breeding grounds and recommended precautionary measures for pregnant women.

"The public is highly encouraged to rid of any water receptacle outside their houses that make a breeding ground for mosquitoes that may carry viruses or diseases, such as Dengue, Chikungunya, or Zika and other mosquito borne diseases and viruses," the advisory said.

"Women of childbearing age and particularly pregnant women should adhere to all Public Health necessary information and materials to reduce the risk of exposure. Pregnant women exposed to Zika virus should report to their medical provider and seek medical advice," it added.

Recommendations were made by the committee with regards to addressing the PHEIC and their possible association with Zika virus, which were endorsed by the director-general.

The committee highlighted the importance of aggressive measures to reduce infection with Zika virus, particularly among pregnant women and women of childbearing age.

As additional precautionary measures, the committee also called for the enhanced surveillance on Zika virus transmission as well as intensified research and development efforts for Zika virus vaccines, therapeutics, and diagnostics among others.

While there were no recommended restrictions on travel or trade with countries, areas, and/or territories with Zika virus transmission, advice on potential risks and appropriate measures to reduce the possibility of exposure to mosquito bites should be given.

Standard WHO recommendations regarding disinfection of aircraft and airports should also be implemented.

## JASMINE

*From Page 1*

ed in three universities that she applied in. She said that she would go to Utah State University to take up computer science.

She received a total of $4,769 in cash and in-kind donations from T Galleria Saipan aside from a goodie bag from Make-A-Wish bag—filled with T-shirts, caps, and button pin—and a brand new Samsung Galaxy S6 from IT&E.

Her accommodation at Butterfly Hotel, plane tickets, and pocket money were also provided.

T Galleria and Make-A-Wish Foundation officials handed over their donations to Guanzon last Thursday at the Tom Picarro conference room of T Galleria in Garapan.

T Galleria employees' donations totaled $2,267, while another $500 came from selling 50 stars at $10 each from their customers, and $500 cash and $1,000 worth of T Galleria merchandise. Their fundraising ran the whole month of December.

"T Galleria will be happy to do it again. This is something that the whole DFS family does worldwide," said T Galleria general manager Milan Rabold.

"We have been supporting Make-A-Wish through Hyatt [Regency Saipan]. This is the first year that T Galleria made a direct donation," added assistant GM Ben Babauta.

T Galleria promotions manager Jamika Taijeron said that they worked hard to raise the funds to grant Guanzon's wish. "This is also the first time that we involved our customers. Most of them bought stars where they wrote good wishes to Jasmine."

Make-A-Wish Foundation executive director Victor P. Camacho thanked T Galleria for their help anytime a kid asks a wish from them. "[T Galleria in Guam and Saipan] has been a huge partner in making sure the kids' wishes are granted. From the management down to the employees, thank you all.

T Galleria human resources manager Esther Ada, assistant sales GM Chong Lee, and operations support manager Merida Pensader joined Rabold, Babauta and Taijeron in the presentation, while Make-A-Wish program manager Kaleena Aguon and board members Eleanor Cabrera and Kanae Quinn were the other Foundation officials.

# 39 individuals participate IRS tax law enforcement sensitive training

Limtiaco

Thirty-nine individuals participated in the U.S. Internal Revenue Service tax law enforcement sensitive training held on Friday at the U.S. Attorney's Office at Horiguchi Building on Saipan.

According to Mae Blas, public information officer for the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Districts of Guam and CNMI, the participants were from the Department of Public Safety, Department of Finance Customs, and Department of Labor investigation side.

During the all-day training, IRS agents discussed about money laundering, identity theft, tax fraud, among other topics.

Alicia A.G. Limtiaco, U.S. Attorney for the Districts of Guam and NMI, underscored the importance of the training designed to help investigators strengthen their cases.

Among the presenters at the training were IRS special agent in charge for Guam Teri Alexander, IRS Criminal Investigation Division special agent Todd Peterson, IRS Seattle Office special agent Ryan Thompson, and IRS Seattle Office in-house counsel Jean Song.

IRS is a highly specialized unit with over 2,600 special agents in the U.S. Two are in Guam.

IRS is crucial in providing assistance to local law enforcement partners, particularly the Revenue and Tax, in enforcing tax laws. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***


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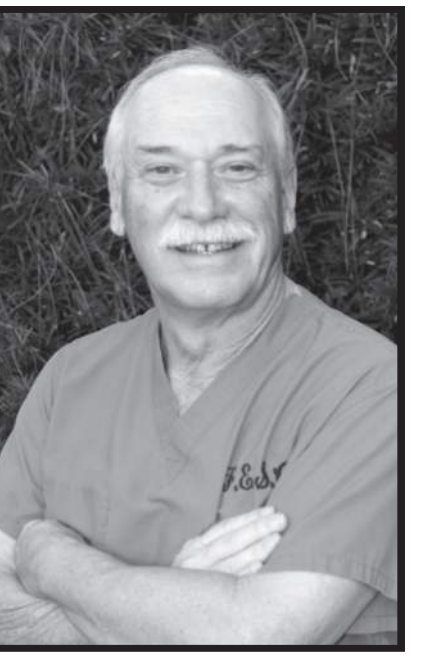

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2016 **Sportage** | starting at **$165** per paycheck

**Perfect for the road ahead.**

Whichever road you choose, the 2016 Sportage is more than ready. With agile handling, an exceptionally smooth ride, and a range of first-class features, every drive is more fun.

2016 **Sedona** | starting at **$227** per paycheck

**Transform your drive.**

The 2016 Sedona is premium comfort with the power to transform. Fitted with the Smart Power Liftgate and available second-row First-Class Lounge Seats, the Sedona offers a spacious driver cockpit and versatile Slide-N-Stow™ seats, providing intuitive control and flexibility that keeps pace with you.

2016 **Cadenza** | starting at **$264** per paycheck

**Dynamic Intelligence.**

Cadenza has been reengineered with the aim of creating the perfect blend of dynamic styling, blissful luxury and high-tech features.

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Vehicle may not be exactly as shown • Some conditions apply • On approved credit • See dealer for details • While Supplies last. *EPA Estimated hwy mpg.

**Kia Rio LX** retail price $16,995.00 less 20% downpayment. Financing at 7% APR for 60 monthly payments of $269.22 or $124.26 per paycheck based on 26 pay periods per year. Total deferred payment $16,153.20.
**Kia Forte LX** retail price $17,995.00 less 20% downpayment. Financing at 7% APR for 60 monthly payments of $285.06 or $131.57 per paycheck based on 26 pay periods per year. Total deferred payment $17,103.60.
**Kia Soul LX** retail price $18,995.00 less 20% downpayment. Financing at 7% APR for 60 monthly payments of $300.90 or $138.88 per paycheck based on 26 pay periods per year. Total deferred payment $18,054.00.
**Kia Sportage LX** retail price $22,495.00 less 20% downpayment. Financing at 7% APR for 60 monthly payments of $356.34 or $164.46 per paycheck based on 26 pay periods per year. Total deferred payment $21,380.40.
**Kia Sedona LX** retail price $30,995.00 less 20% downpayment. Financing at 7% APR for 60 monthly payments of $490.99 or $226.61 per paycheck based on 26 pay periods per year. Total deferred payment $29,459.40.
**Kia Cadenza Premium** retail price $35,995 less 20% downpayment. Financing at 7% APR for 60 monthly payments of $570.20 or $263.17 per paycheck based on 26 pay periods per year. Total deferred payment $34,212.00.

# IMMEDIATE HIRING

Saipan Tribune is inviting qualified candidates to apply for **ACCOUNTANT** position.

**Qualifications:**

- Associates degree in Finance or Accounting
- At least three years work-related experience in financial accounting with an emphasis on receivables and payroll
- Proficient in the use of MS Excel, Word, and PowerPoint office
- Knowledge in SAP R3 FICO accounting system is a plus, but not required
- Fast learner, self-starter, and a team player
- Above average written and oral English communication skills

Interested applicants may submit resume or obtain employment application at Saipan Tribune, Inc. office located on 2nd floor of JP Center Building in Beach Road, Garapan. To be considered, applications must be submitted not later than **5:00pm, Friday, February 5, 2016.**

**Saipan Tribune, Inc. is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Qualified women, minorities and disabled persons are encouraged to apply**


# E-Land, co-defendants want to transfer suit to federal court

E-Land World Co. Ltd., the majority shareholder of Coral Ocean Point Golf Resort, and three others who are being sued by attorney Vincent DLG. Torres, want to transfer to federal court Torres' lawsuit that was filed in the Superior Court.

E-Land World Co. Ltd., Suwaso Corp., Micronesia Resort Inc., and Kwang Won Seo, through counsel Richard W. Pierce, filed on Friday a notice of removal of Torres' lawsuit.

Pierce said his clients want to remove this suit pursuant to Chapter 2 of the Federal Arbitration Act.

Pierce said in that Chapter, the U.S. Congress gave federal courts jurisdiction over matters relating to international arbitration agreements and awards in light of "the emphatic federal policy in favor of arbitral dispute resolution" that "applies with special force in the field of international commerce."

Pierce said Congress also gave federal courts jurisdiction to ensure compliance with the U.S.' treaty obligations under the New York Convention on the Recognition and Enforcement of Foreign Arbitral Awards.

Pierce said in his complaint, Torres asserts claims that "related to," within the meaning of the Federal Arbitration Act, a Purchase and Sale Agreement of Capital Stock of Suwaso Corp., executed on Aug. 23, 2012 and amended on Oct. 12, 2012, by Yusuke Fumoto and Micronesia Resort Inc.

Pierce said the Purchase and Sale Agreement—which is at the center of Torres' complaint—resulted in the transfer of majority of Suwaso's stock from Fumoto to Micronesia Resort Inc.

In doing so, Pierce pointed out, the Purchase and Sale Agreement established a commercial relationship between Fumoto, who resides in Japan, and Micronesia Resort Inc., which is located in CNMI.

Pierce said the Agreement also established commercial relationships among defendants and Torres, who held, and continues to hold, a 15 percent interest in Suwaso.

Pierce said the Agreement broadly requires arbitration or any disputes related to it.

The lawyer also noted that Torres erroneously sued E-Land World Co., Ltd. as E-Land Word Ltd.

He said Torres also erroneously sued Micronesia Resort Inc. and Kwang Won Seo as Micronesian Resort Inc. and Dennis Seo, respectively.

Torres, a minority shareholder of Suwaso Corp. that owns Coral Ocean Golf Resort, sued Suwaso's majority shareholder E-Land World Ltd. and some of its current and former directors and employees for allegedly failing to provide a proper accounting, embarking upon a scheme to misappropriate business opportunities and funds, and negotiating loans over $5 million without proper authorization.

The other co-defendants in the case are Jong-Ho Roh, Seong Min Kang, Il Kyu Kim, Tae Ho Kim, Steve Hwang, and three unnamed co-defendants.

According to the lawsuit, E-Land, a large Korean corporation, is the sole shareholder of Micronesian Resort Inc. (MRI). MRI is the majority shareholder of Suwaso Corp. Suwaso owns Coral Ocean. Roh is an E-Land employee and a former director of MRI and Suwaso.

Kang, Il Kim, and Tae Kim are former directors and officers of MRI and Suwaso. Hwang is an agent of E-Land who allegedly provided legal advice to all the defendants. Seo is an employee of E-Land allegedly delegated to manage and or act on behalf of Suwaso.

Torres, through counsel William M. Fitzgerald, asked the Superior Court to hold E-Land and co-defendants liable to pay him in unspecified damages, court costs, and attorney's fees. He demanded a jury trial.

Torres requested the court to issue a mandatory injunction compelling Suwaso to produce records and an accounting pursuant to the Suwaso bylaws and CNMI law. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

# Survivors, caregivers support meeting on Feb. 11

All people facing cancer, their family members, and caregivers are invited to the next Commonwealth Cancer Association monthly support meeting scheduled for Thursday, Feb. 11, 2016, 5:30pm at Hyatt Regency Saipan, Chamolinian Room.

To RSVP or for more information, please call The Commonwealth Cancer Association, Inc. at 682-0050 or email at ccamarianas@gmail.com or cca@ccamarianas.org. ***(PR)***


## Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

## JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

JVA No. **16-005**

Opening Date: **Friday, January 29, 2016**
Closing Date: **Thursday, February 11, 2016**

### Trades Assistant (Electrician)

**Duties:** Under the direct supervision of the Power Generation Manager or his/her designee. Assists with the safe and efficient operation of all plant equipment and machinery including, but not limited to, incinerators, generators, operation of valves, plant production operations, and unloading of diesel fuel tank trucks to storage tanks. Primary duties are as a TRADES ASSISTANT ELECTRICIAN: Follows all safety and operations procedures during operations and maintenance activities; Monitoring Plant systems as assigned; Prepares job site for work including gathering and setting up materials and supplies, and setting work safety barriers for protection; Gathers, cleans and returns equipment, materials and supplies used; Cleans and maintains work site after project or repair work is complete; Monitors equipment; takes readings and collects data; documents equipment readings; prepares and submits data and work reports; Performs inventory spot checks to ensure adequate materials and supplies are available for daily work activities; Assisting with equipment inspections, cleaning, corrosion control, and painting; Operating incinerators; oil and water separator pump, servicing and preparing oil filters; Maintaining grounds, trimming trees and removing debris and housekeeping; Performs other duties of a similar nature and level as assigned.

**LOCATION** : **Power Generation**, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, USA.
(If needed, there may be periodic assignment to other divisions of CUC and/or other islands.)
**SALARY** : $16,742.00 per annum.
**CONTRACT** : Not Contracted.
**POSITION(S)** : Four (4)

**Minimum Requirements:** High School Diploma or GED or ABE Program AS. Training and knowledge in operations repair, and maintenance of power generating and/or industrial equipment/facilities desired but not required. Knowledge of: Customer service principles; Basic mathematical concepts; Safety procedures and safe work practices; Modern office technology. Skills in: Operating heavy and light equipment machinery, hand and power tools required of assigned area; Adhering to safety procedures and safe work practices; Prioritizing tasks and managing time for efficiency; Identifying issues and solving problems; Providing attention to detail; Taking equipment readings and recording data; Maintaining activity logs and reports; Utilizing a computer and relevant software applications; Utilizing communication and interpersonal skills as applied to interaction with coworkers, supervisor, the general public, and others to sufficiently exchange or convey information and to receive work direction. Must Able to lift and carry heavy objects of 45 pounds and over, climb ladders, reach above the shoulders, stand, sit, crawl and kneel for prolonged periods and perform repeated bending. Recognize color codes, operate cranes and motor vehicles. Work inside around machinery in operation; in varying degree of temperature in tight or cramped (confined) work spaces, at heights, on ladders or scaffolds, and on slippery or uneven walking surfaces in close proximity to high and low voltage circuits and climbs stairs frequently. Occasionally use solvents, de-greasing agents, or other chemical agents, and be assigned to protracted or irregular hours of work. Work in environments exposed to dust, oil, grease, constant or excessive noise, vibration, and smoke and gas fumes. Work closely with others and/or alone depending on assigned daily activities. Must be available to work a 24/7 rotation shift to include weekends and holidays, may be on call for emergency response. Applicants may be tested. Subject to pre-employment drug test.

Drop off your CUC Employment Application at the CUC Human Resource Office located on the 3rd Floor of the Joeten Dandan Building on Saipan. Otherwise, you may drop it off at the Tinian and Rota Administration Office.

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Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
## NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION
Tel. (670) 234-6866/234-9447 / 234-7670 • Fax: 234-9021
Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp

## PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) Board of Directors, through its Chairman of the Board, is hereby giving notice that a Regular Board Meeting is scheduled on **Wednesday, February 10, 2016 10:00 a.m. at the NMHC's Conference Room, Garapan, Saipan.** The public is welcome to submit written or oral comments regarding the agenda below. Individuals interested in attending the meeting and needing special accommodations are requested to contact NMHC in advance.

**I. PRELIMINARY MATTERS**
a. Call to Order
b. Swearing-in
c. Roll Call
d. Adoption of Agenda
e. Election of Officers
f. Adoption of Minutes
i. November 18, 2015 Regular Board Meeting
**II. PUBLIC COMMENTS**
**III. CORPORATE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**
a. Ad Hoc Committee Report
b. Divisional Monthly Reports
**IV. OLD BUSINESS**
a. CPD Updates
b. Program & Housing Division Updates
c. Mortgage & Credit Division Updates
d. Fiscal Division Updates
e. Loan Assumption Proposal
f. USDA RD Settlement Proposal
**V. NEW BUSINESS**
a. Isa Villas Project Size Amendment and Return and Reallocation
b. Loan Assistance Request
c. CPP Resolution
**VI. LEGAL COUNSEL'S PENDING/ONGOING REPORT**
**VII. EXECUTIVE SESSION**
**VIII. OTHER MATTERS**
**IX. ADJOURNMENT**

*(Note: Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 13(a) (7) and Section 13(c), the Board may vote to meet in executive session.)*

/s/ **EDWARD C. SABLAN**
Chairman of the Board



## TINIAN CASINO GAMING CONTROL COMMISSION
Municipality of Tinian and Aguiguan
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

## PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9910(a), the Tinian Casino Gaming Control Commission (TCGCC) hereby gives notice that it will hold its Regular Meeting on Thursday, February 11, 2016, at 2:00 p.m. at the TCGCC Conference Room.

### AGENDA

**I. PRELIMINARY**
a. Call to Order
b. Roll Call
c. Adoption of Agenda
d. Adoption of Minutes
**II. PUBLIC COMMENTS[1]**
**III. REPORTS**
a. Chair's Report
b. Executive Director's Report
**IV. OLD BUSINESS**
a. Re-opening of Tinian Dynasty Hotel & Casino
**V. NEW BUSINESS**
a. Proposed Amendments to TCGCC Regulations
§ PART 800 – FEES AND DEPOSITS
§170-30.2-801
b. In-House Legal Counsel
c. Executive Director
d. Licensing Matters
1. Casino Key/Employee License Applications
2. Hotel Registrations
3. Casino Service Industry License Applications
a. Tinian Trading International, Inc.
4. Casino License/Suitability Applications
**VI. EXECUTIVE SESSION[2]**
**VII. MISCELLANEOUS/ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**
**VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

[1] Public comments are limited to 30 minutes and each remark is limited to 3 minutes each. Everyone is welcomed to submit written comments.
[2] Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9912, the Commission may vote to meet in executive session at any time.

# MCS recognizes 5 Parents of the Year

By THOMAS MANGLONA II
CORRESPONDENT

As a part of its conclusion to Catholic Schools Week, Mount Carmel School recognized its Parents of the Year for their outstanding volunteerism and commitment to students, faculty, and staff. Unlike previous years, five parents were recognized last Friday during the school's Family Night on campus.

Tina Crisostimo, Elizabeth Lebria, Randall Steele, and Mark and Catherine Attao-Toves are recipients of this year's award.

According to Guerrero, Crisostimo is an active member to the Parent-Teacher Organization and spearheaded one of its most successful fundraisers, including last year's garage sale and carnival.

"She has been instrumental this year in working to energize and engage more parents," he said.

Guerrero explained that with the school's growing involvement in athletics and development of more sports organizations, parents play an integral role in coaching, supporting, and even feeding student athletes during the season.

Steele, who was recognized for forming and coaching a U12 soccer team that played in the championship, told *Saipan Tribune* "it's an honor to coach our kids and serve the school."

He added, "My son is in the 6th grade and that was one of my favorite years are school. I did not want the kids to miss out on so many athletic opportunities."

Fellow parent coach Lebria, for her part, has coached MCS' girls softball team for many years and has supported the school's various sports programs.

Mark and Catherine Attao-Toves, parents to one MCS AlumKnight and four current students, work in tandem to give back to the school, which they said "made a huge difference in [our kids] lives not only socially but academically."

The father-and-mother duo work six days a week to train both girls and boys basketball teams. Under their guidance, the school's girls team competed in an adult league during the holidays.

"This is really the only way for us to really try and give back that experience to other students," she said.

In his remarks, Guerrero told parents "despite how hard it can be, you all still choose to send your kids to Mt. Carmel School."

He added, "We thank you for your continued support of your child's Catholic education and all that you do for this school."

THOMAS MANGLONA II

From left, Mt. Carmel School president Galvin Deleon Guerrero, board chair Attorney Joseph Taijeron, Parent-Teacher Organization acting president Luis Camacho, Parents of the Year Catherine Attao-Toves and Randall Steele, principal Frances Taimanao, vice principal Ida Bahillo, counselor Tobed Smith, business manager Bobby Baldazo, and director of Institutional Development John Blanco pose for a photo during Mt. Carmel School's annual family night event as a part of Catholic Schools Week.

# Demapan lauds MVA's Tenorio

In light of the announcement of Perry Tenorio's resignation as managing director of the Marianas Visitors Authority, Rep. Angel A. Demapan (R-Saipan) commends Tenorio for his two decades of service to the Commonwealth's tourism industry.

"Mr. Tenorio has been a tremendous asset to the MVA and the CNMI as a whole," said Demapan. "He was significantly involved in the transformation of our tourism industry to what it has become today."

"As vice chairman of the House Committee on Commerce and Tourism, I am saddened to see Mr. Tenorio leave MVA, but I am also deeply appreciative of his many years of committed public service," added Demapan. "Mr. Tenorio was also the first person from the Northern Marianas to be appointed to a national board when President Obama appointed him to serve on the Travel and Tourism Advisory Board under the U.S. Department of Commerce Secretary."

Demapan hopes that the MVA board will be able to fill the void at MVA's helm swiftly with someone with just as much energy and vision to continue improving the CNMI's tourism industry.

"There is a great deal of work ahead for the tourism industry in light of the new investments going on in the CNMI," said Demapan. "But Mr. Tenorio has contributed a great deal to begin preparing the industry for the future." ***(PR)***


## Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
### Office of the Executive Director

**INVITATION TO BID**
**CUC-ITB-16-004**

**SURVEYED VEHICLES & EQUIPMENT**

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is inviting interested individuals and firms to bid on CUC Surveyed Vehicles & Equipment located in Saipan & Tinian, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The Bid Package may be obtained at no charge upon registration at the CUC, Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan, between 7:30 AM to 11:30 AM and 12:30 PM to 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays.

**One (1) original and One (1) copy** must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "**CUC-ITB-16-004, CUC Surveyed Vehicles & Equipment**" to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on February 26, 2016,** at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered.

Bidders must sign a Waiver of Liability, removing CUC's liability from claims resulting from violations relating to the removal and disposal of the surveyed vehicles & equipment. CUC shall transfer and assign the surveyed vehicles/equipment to the prospective bidder in an "**As is, Where is**" condition. By accepting the transfer and assignment, the bidder acknowledges that CUC has made no representation or warranties of the merchantability, quality, fitness, and condition of the vehicles/equipment.

*The vehicles/equipment may be inspected by appointment only, between the hours of 9:00 AM thru 3:00 PM Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, by contacting CUC Procurement & Supply Division at telephone no. 664-4282 extensions 367 & 305. For the vehicles on Tinian, please contact Winston Omar at 433-9261 or 433-3488.*

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any defects in the said bids, if in its sole opinion to do so would be in the best interest of the CUC.

All inquiries must be submitted in writing no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on February 19, 2016, to Manny B. Sablan, Jr., CUC Purchasing Officer, via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org and Marcela Tenorio, CUC Administrative Technician for Procurement via email marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org.

GARY P. CAMACHO
Acting Executive Director



# Attention, Honda & Acura Drivers.

Please be aware that, we have a National Safety Improvement Campaign and recall under way to repair airbag inflators at no cost to you, in certain Honda and Acura vehicles (listed below). To see if your vehicle needs immediate attention, please check its recall status by taking one of the following steps:

**GO** to **recalls.honda.com** for Honda drivers,
or **recalls.acura.com** for Acura drivers.

**CALL 1-800-999-1009** and choose option 4 for Honda drivers,
or **1-800-382-2238** and choose option 4 for Acura drivers.
Monday through Friday, 8:00AM to 5:00PM Pacific Standard Time.

**VISIT Joeten Motors**, the authorized Honda dealer in **Saipan** to have it serviced. Or call us at (670) 234-5562.

Honda is committed to addressing your needs and concerns. We will provide a free-of-charge rental car or loaner vehicle if there is a delay while getting your car reapaired.

Almost everyone knows someone who owns a Honda. If you know a Honda or Acura driver who might own an affected vehicle, please encourage them to contact us.

We care about your safety, so please take action immediately.

Affected Models:

2001-2007 Honda Accord
2001-2005 Honda Civic
2002-2006 Honda CR-V
2003-2011 Honda Element
2002-2004 Honda Odyssey
2003-2008 Honda Pilot
2006 Honda Ridgeline
2003-2006 Acura MDX
2002-2003 Acura TL
2003 Acura CL
2005 Acura RL

HONDA

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# McFun Run set for Feb. 20

The annual McFun Run will be held by the Rotary Club of Saipan and the McDonald's Family Restaurants of Saipan this month.

The event is set for Feb. 20, a Saturday, at 6:15am.

This year, the Rotary Club aims to double the amount of funds they were able to raise last year. Nearly 200 joined the McFun Run last year and the club was able to raise around $3,000.

Like the previous year, there will be a 5K and 10K run. This year, the run will start and end at the Carolinian Utt in Garapan.

The 5K turn around will be in front of STAR Water in Beach Road, and the 10K turnaround will be in front of Oleai Beach Bar and Grill.

Aside from individual runs, the organizers also added a group category called "I'm Loving It" team.

"We did a little twist this year," Rotary president Curtis Dancoe said, "We've set up two categories. The first one is the individual category and the second one is a team category. The team category represents 10 people."

The Rotary Club will be conducting an awards ceremony as well as draw raffle prizes after the run. Free T-shirts will also be given away.

Registration fees this year are $10 for students and $15 for adults.

Registration forms are available at T-Galleria Security Booth Area in Garapan, AK Toyota in San Jose, and Megabyte in Gualo Rai.

For more information, contact Ben Babauta (483-2563) or Sonya Dancoe (287-7368). ***(Frauleine Villanueva-Dizon)***

## COMMUNITY BRIEFS

### Portions of AMP reopening

Over the last few months since Typhoon Soudelor, staff at American Memorial Park have been working hard to reopen the site to the public. The park is happy to announce that the picnic pavilion, Micro Beach (south of the pathway), and the sidewalks through the park are reopening at this time.

The area north of the bell tower and sidewalks remain closed due to unsafe conditions. This area is roped off and marked with "Area Closed" signs. Stay alert for unseen hazards and report safety issues to park staff.

Please note that the entire park remains a "Day Use Only" area until lights arrive and are installed in the coming months. We hope to open the tennis courts for day use in the next month or so as well.

We appreciate your patience during these last few months of recovery, and encourage you to come back and "Find Your Park!" ***(PR)***

### Military to conduct training at FDM, W-517

**ASAN, Guam**—The military will conduct training at the island of Farallon de Medinilla during the following dates and times:

- Feb. 8-10 from 7am to 11:30pm
- Feb. 11-12 from 8am to 11:30pm
- Feb. 13 from 10am to 11:30pm

The military will also conduct training at Warning Area 517 during the following dates and times:

- Feb. 9-10 from noon to 10pm
- Feb. 11-12 from 8am to 4pm

The general public, especially fishermen, commercial pilots and marine tour operators are advised to stay clear of the areas during the dates and times indicated.

The general location of the training on the island of Farallon de Medinilla will be on a 12-nautical mile radius on all quadrants. Farallon de Medinilla plays a special and unique role in national defense because its location provides frequent access that supports established training requirements. In addition, the air and sea space in the Farallon provides sufficient room for the many different attack profiles necessary to replicate training opportunities in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

W-517 is an irregular shaped polygon comprising of 14,000 nautical square miles of airspace that begins south of Guam and extends south-southwest in international waters. W-517 supports surface and aerial gunnery, missiles, and laser exercises. This will affect fishing in the vicinity of Santa Rosa Reef and Galvez Bank. ***(PR)***

### Temporary water service interruption in Garapan

Commonwealth Utilities Corp. customers in the village of Garapan are experiencing a temporary water service interruption due to low levels in the Puerto Rico reservoir.

CUC Water Operations personnel discovered the Puerto Rico tank was empty during routine monitoring this morning. A subsequent investigation of the production and transmission system revealed three wells went offline during the night.

Repair personnel are currently addressing the issue; however, customers in Garapan will not receive water for the remainder of the day. While there is currently no estimate for the resumption of water service, Operations personnel should be able to provide an estimate by 5pm. In the meantime, CUC will continue to provide updates though our local media and social media outlets as information becomes available.

For more information, please contact the 24-hour CUC Customer Call Center (664-4282) or visit www.facebook.com/CommonwealthUtilitiesCorporation/ for the latest updates. ***(PR)***


**COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY**
Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950
Phone: (670) 237-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

**Benjamin Taisacan Manglona International Airport**
**Car Rental Concessions**
**CPA-RFP-011-16**

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS**

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is soliciting proposals for the award of one (1) Rental Car Concessions at the Benjamin Taisacan Manglona International Airport.

Proposal packages can be obtained beginning January 15, 2016 at the CPA Administration Office, second floor of Arrival terminal at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport at a fee of $50.00 per package.

Proposal must be addressed to the Executive Director, P.O. Box 501055, Saipan, MP 96950; and received by the CPA Administration Office (Saipan) on **February 8, 2016**, by or before **12:00 p.m.**, in order to be considered for the award.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject proposals in accordance with its Procurement Rules and Regulations.

/s/ MARYANN Q. LIZAMA
Executive Director



**COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY**
Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950
Phone: (670) 237-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

**Tinian International Airport**
**Car Rental Concessions**
**CPA-RFP-012-16**

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS**

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is soliciting proposals for the award of three (3) Rental Car Concessions at the Tinian International Airport.

Proposal packages can be obtained beginning January 15, 2016 at the CPA Administration Office, Second floor of Arrival terminal at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport at a fee of $50.00 per package.

Proposals must be addressed to the Executive Director, P.O. Box 501055, Saipan, MP 96950; and received by the CPA Administration Office (Saipan) on **February 8, 2016**, by or **before 12:00 p.m.**, in order to be considered for the award.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject proposals in accordance with its Procurement Rules and Regulations.

/s/ MARYANN Q. LIZAMA
Executive Director



**Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands**
**NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION**
P.O. BOX 500514, Saipan, MP 96950-0514
Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp • Website: http://www.nmhcgov.net

EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

***Amendment No. 2***

**NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION**

**NOTICE OF FUNDING AVAILABILITY OF COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT FUNDS FOR PROGRAM YEAR 2016**

*THIS ADVERTISEMENT IS PAID FOR BY NMHC WITH CPD FUNDS.*

The Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, through the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) is announcing the availability of an estimated $1,219,232.00 in Community Planning and Development (CPD) funds available from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. NMHC anticipates receiving an estimated amount of $873,837.00 in Community Development Block Grants (CDBG); $278,365.00 in Home Investment Partnerships (HOME); and, $67,030.00 in Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funds for Program Year (PY) 2016.

The CDBG funds, authorized under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, may be used for a wide range of community development activities to revitalize neighborhoods, provide affordable housing, expand economic opportunities, and improve community facilities and services. However, use of these funds must meet at least one of the national objectives which include: 1) to benefit low and moderate-income families; 2) to eliminate slum or blight conditions; or 3) to meet other urgent community development needs.

The CDBG program requires a grant recipient to certify that it will minimize displacement of persons as a result of activities assisted with CDBG funds. The CNMI government does not plan on undertaking any activity which will cause displacement of person. In the event of any unforeseen displacement resulting from any CDBG funded activity, the CNMI government will comply with the requirements of the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970, its implementing regulation and applicable local law.

HOME funds may be used to create affordable housing through financing assistance, site acquisition or improvement, and rehabilitating existing residential dwellings as well as providing funds for new construction or purchase of a single family residential dwelling. Use of HOME funds must benefit low-income families.

ESG funds may be used to rehabilitate or convert to buildings into homeless shelters and for shelter operating expenses, supportive services and homeless prevention and rapid re-housing activities. Use of ESG funds must benefit the homeless.

***Applications for the use of CPD funds are available for pick up at the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) located in Garapan, Saipan; San Jose Village, Tinian; and, Songsong Village, Rota, beginning December 21, 2015. You may also obtain the application via our website at www.nmhcgov.net.***

Applications must be submitted to the NMHC Offices in Garapan, Saipan (Saipan Residents); San Jose, Tinian (Tinian Residents); and, Songsong Village, Rota (Rota Residents) by ~~***Friday, March 25, 2016***~~ ***Monday, March 28, 2016, no later than 4:30 p.m. Applications submitted after*** ~~***March 25, 2016***~~ ***March 28, 2016, will not be accepted.***
(note: March 25, 2016 is a CNMI Holiday)

***A briefing will be conducted for interested applicants and for those applicants who have picked up an application for the use of CPD funds. The briefing will address the program requirements and regulations concerning the usage of CPD funds.***

***The schedules for briefing are as follows:***

- ***Saipan: February 16, 2016, 6:00 p.m. at the NMHC Conference Room located in Garapan, Saipan.***
- ***Tinian: February 17, 2016, 6:00 p.m. at the NMHC Field Office located in San Jose, Tinian.***
- ***Rota: February 19, 2016, 6:00 p.m. at the Mayor's Office Conference Room located in Tatachog, Rota.***

***We are encouraging all non-profit, for profit, and government service providers who are providing services to people with disabilities, homeless individuals, and emergency shelter administrators and operators to attend this briefing.***

Accommodations for disabled individuals or other non-English speaking individuals who wish to attend the briefing are available upon request by giving at least 24 hours notice prior to the meeting so that such needs can be arranged and provided. Additional inquiries, concerning the CPD program, may be directed to Ms. Zenie P. Mafnas, Deputy Corporate Director or Mr. Jacob Muna, Planner/Environmental Officer at 234-7689 or 234-6866.

/s/ Jesse S. Palacios
Corporate Director

# Village Pride Project

**CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS**

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres joins Madame Margaret Cui Lijie, majority shareholder of Imperial Pacific International Holdings, during last Friday's Village Pride Project at the Garapan Central Park held for residents of Navy Hill, China Town, As Mahetod, and Puerto Rico. The chief executive is supporting the growing success of Best Sunshine International, Ltd.'s Village Pride Project.

Chamorrita dancers sway to local music as part of the revelry at the Village Pride gathering at the Minatchom Atdao Pavilion.

Dancers in traditional Carolinian warrior garb gave a sequence of rousing performances including the famous stick dance.

Madame Cui is joined by Rep. Angel Demapan of Precinct 1, at Best Sunshine's Village Pride Project held at the Garapan Central Park Friday evening.

The voice from the past carries on as the SSI Sunset Cruisers played nostalgic local music at the Oleai Village Pride Project.

# Type II Handcrew Packtest

**February 19, 2016 at 0800 hours**
**Rota Fire Station**

**The Department of Fire & Emergency Medical Services [DFEMS] Forestry Strike Team is looking for individuals for our Type II Handcrew. Applicants must be disciplined, reliable, physically fit, and are able to work hard under tough conditions.**

**TEST:** Applicants must complete a 3 mile walk (no running) with a 45 lbs pack under a 45 minute time period.

**REQUIREMENTS:** IS 700, certification for returning individuals and a valid passport to enter the United States. Must turn in IS700 Before March 1st.

**Contact Person: Firefighter Linus L. Mizutani Jr.**
**Email: llmizutani@dfems.gov.mp | Tel.: 285-7324**

# Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
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## EDITORIAL

# Another Super Bowl, another brain trauma casualty

It is ever harder to watch the Super Bowl without mixed feelings. This week, as football fans geared up for the high holy day of sports on Sunday, researchers at Boston University confirmed that the late, great NFL quarterback Ken Stabler was suffering from high Stage 3 chronic traumatic encephalopathy when he died in July.

Score one more for CTE, the degenerative brain disease increasingly linked with football. Few athletes were as charismatic as The Snake during his young, hell-raising years with the Oakland Raiders. And few men have endured a middle age as crippling.

His partner, Kim Bush, said on Wednesday that his 60s were a nightmare of memory loss, insomnia and disorientation, with headaches so severe that he often spent whole days in silence. As he witnessed other retired athletes succumbing to dementia, depression and other neurological problems, he agreed to donate his brain to science; CTE, which is believed to arise from repetitive brain trauma, can only be diagnosed posthumously.

After Stabler died at 69 of complications from colon cancer, Ann McKee, a neuropathologist who has been among the leading researchers into the condition, immediately identified the telltale shrunken temporal lobe, small hippocampus, atrophy and shredded brain tissue.

With the diagnosis, Stabler joins more than 100 of his peers, including more than a half-dozen Hall of Famers, who appear to have suffered from CTE, including Junior Seau, "Iron" Mike Webster and Frank Gifford. Bennet Omalu, a medical examiner and University of California at Davis professor whose work was the basis of the film "Concussion" has estimated that nine out of 10 NFL players have the affliction.

Though Stabler became increasingly private as his health degenerated, the news surprised no one who knew him. Like most pros, he had experienced football's occupational hazards for many years before football was his occupation. By the time he retired, had spent some 28 years being tackled, starting at age 9.

After years of denial, the NFL has begun to acknowledge that CTE is a problem, and that being slammed repeatedly in the head is no different for football players than for boxers, or combat veterans, or hockey players, or any other mere mortal. California last year passed a law limiting contact practice for football players in middle school and high school, and the American Academy of Pediatrics has weighed in on the issue.

But more must be done. Omalu has questioned whether there should be an age of consent for football, since the brain damage appears to worsen with the number of hits, and thus, the number of years of contact. Others believe the game needs to be changed at every level to limit trauma.

Of course, that's not what fans want to focus on now, and who can blame them? Football is thrilling, and it's hard to separate its mix of skill and violence and patriotism and marketing and nostalgia. Still, the casualties are mounting. Tuning them out won't be easy this weekend, as as America waits for the kickoff and Stabler's survivors wait, shattered, for the cold comfort of possible admission to the Hall of Fame.

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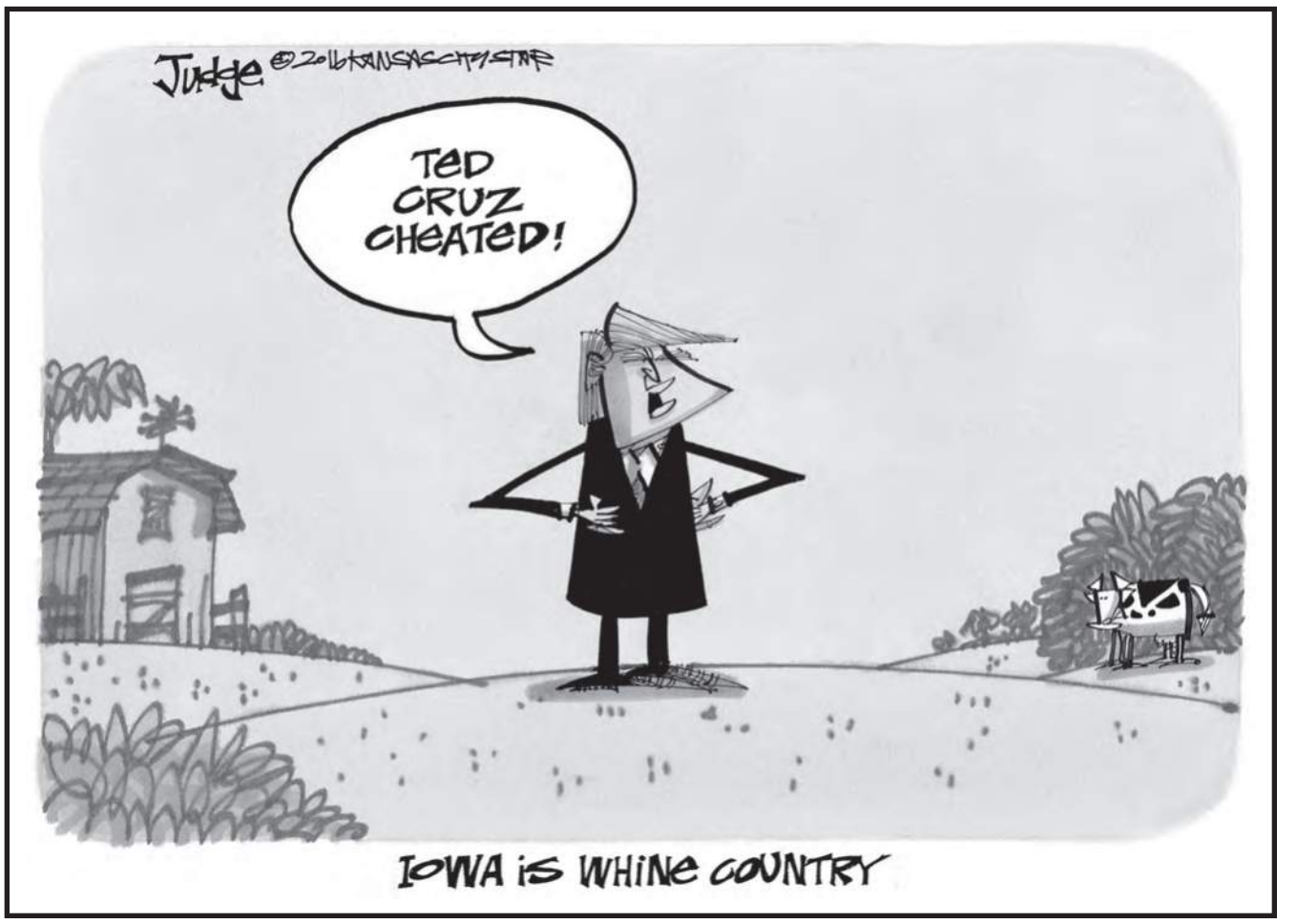



# The Donald in Ay Yo Way

**By JAIME VERGARA**
Special to the Saipan Tribune

*Jaime Vergara previously taught at SVES in the CNMI. A peripatetic pedagogue, he last taught in China but makes Honolulu, Shenyang, and Saipan home. He can be reached at pinoypanda2031@aol.com. All views expressed by the author are his/her own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion and stance of the* Saipan Tribune.

However you slice it, "experts" were wrong. Media was too eager to project their "bias" that I wonder how much the projections were meant to influence "indifferent" America at the caucus in Iowa. The American political decision making of "caucus" is closer to the native Algonquian word cau'-cau'as'u for "adviser" more than the Latin for a shared goblet that a group commonly drink from. In Iowa, 99 counties with 1681 precincts held meetings and are indicative of the diversity but highly participatory nature of the U.S. election process.

The Donald media figure shrunk in Iowa, and the contest for the conservative vote was between Ted Cruz of Texas and Mark Rubio of Florida. It appears it will be the Latinos turn after Hillary's stay in the White House one or two terms. The protest vote The Donald rode is raucous, temperamental, and momentary, as it is whimsical. When Middle America's winds settle down, the contest will be between a progressive (Hillary or Bernie) and a conservative TexMex Ted or Florida Cuban Mark. The latter are populist Republicans who have equal chance against perceived establishment Hillary or the Liberal Bernie.

We are three days before the NH primary results so we will refrain from commenting on speculations, but what we know is that Trump leads the polls for the Republicans again. Democrat Bernie Sanders hails from next-door Vermont so he should not have any difficulty earning deservedly the limelight this time. Hillary primps that if voters simply considered record, she'd be the runaway winner!

Obama crossed the color line to the White House so the next in line is a woman. Coming not too far behind is a Latino, either of TexMex descent, or Cuban through Florida. They might still be ambulatory.

The Donald is a great sideshow, an ironic and iconic bona fide anti-establishment figure vintage NYC, for the freshness of his brassiness. But the Presidential election process of the U.S. is an organic complex across a broad landscape, more than just a popularity contest. Iowa's Caucus eliminates those who cannot hack it in the long run rather than sharpen the choice. The first time he ran, Bill Clinton was fourth at 3 percent of the vote to 76 of Tom Harkin. Iowa's designated electors in the Presidential process constitute only 1 percent of the national total.

Ay Yo Way is a great test for a candidate's staying power and the New Hampshire three days away is already filled with media speculations, but having seen how wrong the media were on the Iowa Republican and Democratic Party's results, we defer from relying on "experts" and let the electorate cast their votes.

A Conservative-Progressive spectrum defines American politics. The Conservatives stick to what works, while Progressives innovate to pursue general welfare. There's nothing mysterious about this. It is the same political dynamic in any country of whatever ideology, though labels to name the dynamic may differ. The Conservatives favor words like "stability and order" while the Progressives identify with "innovation and change." Both dynamics operate in any given society; the balancing act pulls the extremes into the center. That they often go after each other's throat is a function of dialectic rather than the spectrum.

The dichotomy is not always straight laced. Nixon was a conservative but he flew into China to shake Mao's hands. In spite of the end of the Cold War, the Pentagon's policy developed during the Korean War more than a century ago is to contain China. Not surprisingly, Progressives are cautious in any belligerent policy on China containment except in rhetoric, recognizing the huge role Chinese manufacturing contributes to the U.S. economy, and their ownership of U.S. government bonds.

Liberal-Progressive JFK was a breath of fresh air after conservative General Eisenhower projected a US taking over British Imperial designs. Giddy Camelot caused lethal acts in Dallas.

With a battered country from the divisive debacle of the unwinnable Vietnam War, George McGovern stood no chance. The country clamored for an assertively pro War veteran hero. Conservative or progressive, U.S. governance desired a law-and-order President to still the turmoil of the time. We got tricky Dick, instead.

What Ay Yo Way and New Hampshire shows is that the presidential selection always makes a pleasant mess. The free wheeling discourse of The Donald provokes a process proven as a third party option rather than as a mainstream political party position. Lively, but it does not stand a chance at the nitty-gritty organizing effort in the local that the mainstream parties undertake.

It is a long way from February to November, with Progressive Democrats fine-tuning the details of how the Executive Office enable things to happen under their watch. Colorful language emanates from the Republicans but it is defensive, loud and plodding, definitely not Lincoln, rudely anti-immigrant cold Tea Party confusion. The Donald provides a distraction!

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

# Special election not discretionary but prescriptive

The lucid, penetrating, and incisive analyses by Saipan duo-writers Francisco Agulto and John Pangelinan on gubernatorial succession conform to their duty for a better informed citizenry over an opinion the local press treated as conclusory homily.

I will not comment on the AG's opinion or the duos' analyses. I will simply present a snapshot of events publicly known in better understanding the issue on gubernatorial succession that could have been readily disclosed upon Inos' passing in 2015

The snapshot is, therefore, intended to contribute to informed citizenry on succession by not taking sides on positions taken above and known prior to the presentation here, which I appeared in *Saipan Tribune*'s Dec. 30, 2015 commentary at http://www.saipantribune.com/index.php/on-the-occasion-of-the-passing-of-rotas-son/ .

During Inos' time as lieutenant governor and as a candidate for governor before the 2014 gubernatorial election are events not limited to what follows below:

1. Pre-gubernatorial/candidate Inos for governor

■ The late governor Inos was known publicly as having health issues: when he was a lieutenant governor under governor Fitial, and when lieutenant governor Inos succeeded Fitial when Fitial exited as governor.

■ Inos' health challenges relate to cardiology (the heart) and issues associated with cardiovascular, which required thrice weekly dialysis.

■ Undisclosed other health issues brought Inos back to the Philippines as lieutenant governor and during the 2014 gubernatorial election.

■ Inos convalesced in Manila for six weeks prior to the 2014 gubernatorial election. He did not campaign as much as he normally would have liked to, for it was not Eloy's style to be sidelined as a robust and resolute man of faith as well.

2. Inos elected governor in November 2014, and took over the helm as a newly-elected governor Inos in January, 2015.

3. Even after he took over as governor in January 2015, Inos would visit Manila for ongoing medical issues, checkups, follow-ups, and R&R.

4. After the January 2015 inauguration, in addition to taking weekend trip(s) to Manila, Inos travelled to U.S. in 2015 reportedly for "vacation."

5. Subject to verification but a few within his inner circle admitted to the personal vacation by Inos as a desire to determine organ matching with another sibling and to determine Inos' overall health capacity to undergo major multiple surgeries under extended anesthesia.

6. There was a belief within his inner circle too that the trip was recommended to rule out creeping issue with abdominal tumor that it was not progressive.

7. Inos was challenged by his thrice weekly dialysis and the stress and fatigue from the weekly dialysis.

8. Inos' thrice weekly dialysis challenged his on-going cardiovascular issue(s).

9. Inos' dialysis, cardiovascular issue, and other health issue(s) triggered or compromised his immunity, an injury which required regular anti-biotic treatment, and attributed to a need to put on a jacket in Saipan's hot weather.

10. Identified incidence above was cumulative.

11. All of the above were complicated further by the required dosage of medications.

12. The cumulative effect of Inos' health issues above was further challenged by the dosages of medications that ultimately compromised even his vocal articulation, appetite, recall, and physical motor skill coordination.

13. Governor Inos left Saipan to the United States in July 2015.

14. Governor Inos went to Seattle before Aug. 2, 2015, when Typhoon Soudelor hit Saipan.

15. Governor Inos returned to Saipan after Typhoon Soudelor passed Saipan in August 2015.

16. Governor Inos returned from Seattle, Washington at least one (1) week following Typhoon Soudelor's devastating effect. Inos in August 2015 did not undergo his planned pre-op procedures in the U.S in August, 2015.

17. Inos was reportedly compelled to return reportedly because of his grave concern for the victims' sufferings from rationed gas lines, no potable water for weeks until Inos' arrival, no power for months, rationed drinking water, rationed ice to cool off, fear of looting and burglaries, and the overall state of fear and apprehension people on Saipan had to deal with unprepared after Typhoon Soudelor.

18. In September 2015, when the ravages of Typhoon Soudelor appeared manageable, Inos returned to the U.S. for his multiple surgery under anesthesia postponed when Inos had to return to Saipan to give people moral support and assurance of recovery from Soudelor's devastation.

19. In summary, following Inos' scheduled surgery, Inos remained in a Seattle hospital ICU ward convalesced under sedation and around-the-clock watch.

20. Inos passed on Dec. 28, 2015 Seattle time zone, or Dec. 29, 2015 Saipan time zone and his remains returned home on January 2016.

21. Late governor Inos remained in his official elective capacity on Saipan as governor:

(a) from January, 2015 to July, 2015;

(b) while on Saipan, Inos was on dialysis thrice weekly from January to July 2015, until he left Saipan in July, 2015.

(c) Inos came back to Saipan after Soudelor in August 2015,

(d) And then left Saipan for Seattle in September 2015,

(e) where Inos remained in Seattle (outside Saipan) since September 2015;

(f) Inos' remains arrived on Saipan the second week of January 2016,

(g) and his body laid to rest on the 3rd week of January 2016 in the Chalan Kanoa Cemetery

22. When elected as governor in November 2014, Inos took the helm as newly-elected governor Inos on January, 2015. Every now and then, Inos would return to Manila for further exploratory medical checkup after he assumed office in early 2015.

23. In 2015 when Inos was in office as Governor in 2015, Inos occasionally visits to CHC Dialysis Ward thrice weekly.

24. Inos' weekly dialysis schedule allowed Inos to clock in at work as governor on Tuesdays and Thursdays full-time and part-time on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, due to his dialysis schedule, which typically runs 3-4 hours at a time, with at least two hours thereafter for recovery from the dialysis procedure.

25. No. 24 dialysis schedule allowed a total record time equivalent time to 48 work days, or two work days weekly on a 4-week work month from January to July, 2015.

26. Forty-eight days is equivalent to one forty-hour work week, or one (1) week fulltime work as governor from January 2015 to July 2015.

27. The CNMI Constitution states that whenever the governor performs travel outside the CNMI, the lieutenant governor automatically assumes the office and serves as acting governor.

28. Lt. Gov. Ralph Torres automatically assumes the office of governor as acting governor, and did so whenever governor Inos was outside the Commonwealth in on the dates identified above during 2015 and in January 2016.

29. During Governor Inos' on-island 3-4 hours, 3-times weekly dialysis procedure (on at least a 5-day work week), the NMI Constitution required assumption and occupancy by Lt. Gov. Torres of the Office of Governor as acting governor while governor Inos became temporarily discharged of his official capacity and function due to being physically incapacitated.

30. In other words, while Inos remained on island, Inos was capable to physically clocked full time for work on Tuesdays and Thursdays, but Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays were committed for dialysis that usually last 3-4 hours each time, allowing two hours for dialysis recovery.

31. Realistically, only a total time of 48 days (i.e., 2 days a week on a 4-week month in January to July, 2015) of service time by Governor Inos at the Office of the Governor from January 2015 to July 2015 and briefly in August until September 2015.

32. At forty 48 out of 365 days in 2015 calendar year is the equivalent of one forty-hour work week, or one week fulltime work by Inos from January 2015 to July 2015.

33. Governor Inos would then serve in real time as governor and assumed the office of the governor for only one (1) week out of 52 weeks in a work calendar year, or 26 government payroll periods.

34. Continuous acting-ship and occupancy of the office of governor by Lt. Gov. Torres not in his official capacity as lieutenant governor in vacating the Office of Lieutenant Governor by occupying the office of governor was from September 2015 through Dec. 29, 2015, when Inos passed away while outside the CNMI though on personal leave and not on official business.

35. Torres' continuous acting-ship as acting governor occasionally in 2015, when governor Inos was on dialysis on island, or when Inos was outside the CNMI, and continuously from September 2015 on when governor Inos was physically and medically incapacitated during a procedure under anesthesia throughout surgery and during Inos' post-surgery until Inos' passing on Dec. 29, 2015 until his return to Saipan in 2016.

36. Torres continuous acting-ship and occupancy of the office of governor as acting governor in September through the end of December 2015 by the CNMI Constitution caused Torres' removal from the office of lieutenant governor and officially as lieutenant governor (i.e. vacancy) and placed Torres in the position as acting governor Torres occupying the Office of Governor.

37. As acting governor Torres, neither Torres nominated nor the Senate provided advise and consent to the position of lieutenant governor to be able to occupy the office of lieutenant governor.

38. In other words, the respective offices of governor and lieutenant governor were vacated by necessity and circumstances owing to the state of shock everyone must had been caught in at Inos' passing.

39. Lt. Gov. Torres became acting governor in place of Inos while he remained identified as lieutenant ogvernor but vacated the office of lieutenant governor and the position of lieutenant governor when he assumed the position of acting governor and occupied the office of governor as acting governor.

40. There was little to no legal advice which guided acting governor Torres in invoking Article III, § 3 of the NMI Constitution that "(w)henever the office of lieutenant governor is vacant, the governor shall appoint a successor with the advice and consent of the senate." Serving as acting governor from September 2015 to Dec. 29, 2015 makes the office of lieutenant governor vacant by operation of law. At the same time, the office of governor was vacant because the office was occupied by acting governor Torres at the same time.

41. Contrary to prescription in Article III, § 3 of the NMI Constitution, no successor acting lieutenant governor was appointed by acting governor Torres, nor a successor by and for lieutenant governor Torres consented by the senate as mandated by the constitution.

42. AG Manibusan appeared to have not caused the enforcement of Article III, § 3 of the NMI Constitution in re to this matter.

43. NMI Constitution in Article III, § 7 states: "An acting governor or lieutenant governor who assumes office when more than one year remains in the term may serve only until a governor or lieutenant governor is chosen in a special election provided by law." A governor and a lieutenant governor in both cases were clearly not chosen in a special election provided by law: acting governor Torres who was lieutenant governor Torres from September 2015 to Dec. 29, 2015 assumed both the office of the governor and the office of the lieutenant governor, thereby making it a prima facie case that both offices were vacant by circumstances and in fact when the requirement for joint candidate for governor and lieutenant governor is factored in and the fact that the office of governor was vacant from September 2015 to December 2015, while at the same time the office of the lt. governor was un-occupied or vacated by necessity.

44. The phrase "as provided by law" includes constitutional law, statutory law, case law, regulatory law, common law, and/or customary law—meaning that if the Legislature did not enact any statutory law governing the subject at hand, then other forms of laws based on a hierarchy of law would apply.

45. When more than one year remains in a fixed four-year term of office in the Office of Governor and Office of the Lt. Governor, a special election as provided by law is prescriptive, not discretionary.

In closing, I invite others to chime in on the information provided, either to dispute or advance and add to the fact pattern in furtherance of making informed opinion on whether or not a special election is required under the facts and circumstances offered above, again, stressing my intention neither to discuss or challenge any theory propounded by the AG or the two writers, nor to engage in any form of analyses beyond what has already been issued by AG Manibusan and Agulto and Pangelinan, in merely presenting a chronology of events known publicly, or should have been made known to the public, bearing directly or indirectly on the issue affecting gubernatorial succession.

In honor of the late governor Inos as the statesman that he was to the full extent life's gifts allowed him to be, Inos' risky surgery and subsequent passing left a huge leadership vacuum the CNMI must learn to deal with. In that spirit, I urge any official in the Legislature, the local delegation, councils, or similarly elected or appointed officials to honor Inos through non-confrontation and friendly review as a certified question that provide dignity to the late governor Inos and his family, relatives, and friends in putting closure to this issue and be at peace moving forward.

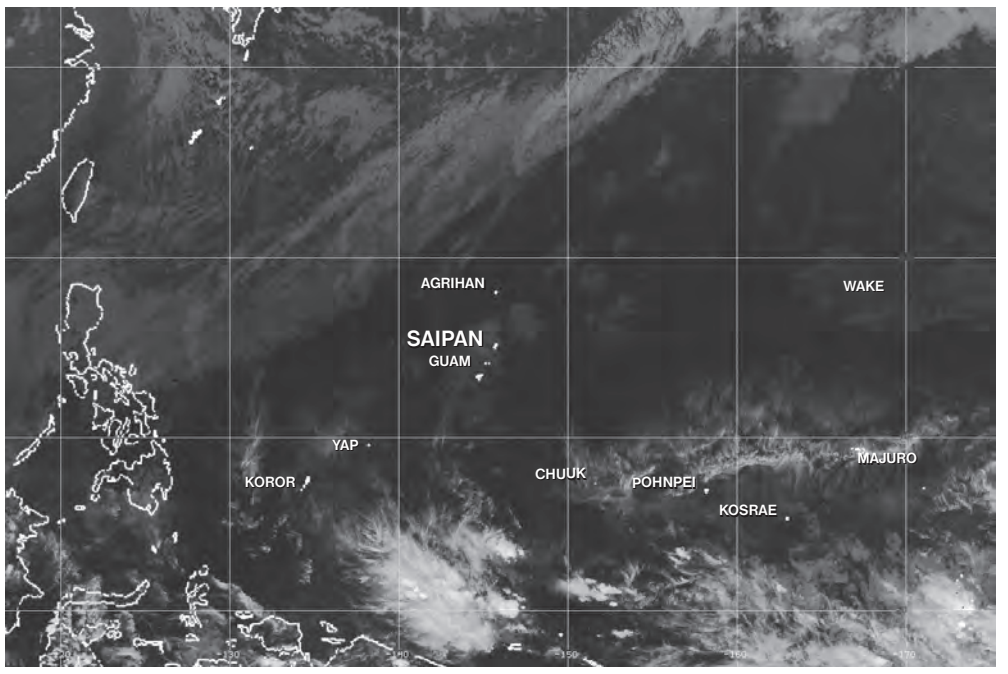
**John C. Castro**
*San Roque*

# The Weather

## 5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

| TODAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Mostly sunny with isolated showers. East winds 15 to 20 mph. | Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Northeast winds 15 to 20 mph. | Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. | Partly cloudy and breezy with isolated showers. | Partly cloudy and breezy with isolated showers. |
| ▲86° ▼75° | ▲86° ▼75° | ▲86° ▼75° | ▲86° ▼75° | ▲86° ▼75° |

## Yesterday's Satellite Image




**PICTURE TIME: 1:00 PM, SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2016**
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A cold front extends southwestward from 25N147E to beyond 130E at 15N. Cloudiness and showers are found across Iwo To island along and up to 320 miles northwest of the front. A shear line curves westward from 17N180 to Wake Island near 18N166E. Cloudiness and patchy showers exist along and up to 250 miles north Of this boundary. A surface trough extends northward from 5N136E to 11N135E. Scattered showers are seen between Yap and Koror within 120 miles of the trough axis. Low-level convergence is generating scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms well southeast of Yap south of a line from 5N140E to 5N149E. Scattered showers are occurring south of Pohnpei and Kosrae within 140 miles of a line from 6N156E to EQ165E and southeast of Majuro south of a line from 1N169E to 6N180.

*Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/*

## Micronesia

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Guam And Rota | Partly Cloudy | ▲84 | ▼78 |
| Palau | Partly Cloudy | ▲88 | ▼76 |
| Yap | Partly Cloudy | ▲87 | ▼77 |
| Chuuk | Partly Cloudy | ▲85 | ▼79 |
| Pohnpei | Partly Cloudy | ▲86 | ▼79 |
| Kosrae | Partly Cloudy | ▲84 | ▼80 |
| Majuro | Mostly Cloudy | ▲85 | ▼79 |

## Around the Globe

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Auckland | Mostly Cloudy | ▲78 | ▼66 |
| Beijing | Windy | ▲54 | ▼24 |
| Hong Kong | Sunny | ▲64 | ▼56 |
| Honolulu | Mostly Sunny | ▲75 | ▼63 |
| London | Showers | ▲50 | ▼39 |
| Los Angeles | Sunny | ▲83 | ▼56 |
| Manila | Partly Cloudy | ▲83 | ▼71 |
| Melbourne | Partly Cloudy | ▲76 | ▼60 |
| Miami | Sunny | ▲65 | ▼46 |
| New York | Mostly Sunny | ▲47 | ▼37 |
| Osaka | Mostly Sunny | ▲50 | ▼41 |
| Paris | Showers | ▲54 | ▼46 |
| Pusan | Mostly Sunny | ▲50 | ▼35 |
| Rome | Partly Cloudy | ▲60 | ▼51 |
| Salem | Partly Cloudy | ▲64 | ▼41 |
| San Francisco | Sunny | ▲69 | ▼52 |
| Seoul | Partly Cloudy | ▲45 | ▼24 |
| Tokyo | Partly Cloudy | ▲50 | ▼35 |
| Washington, DC | Partly Cloudy | ▲51 | ▼32 |

**NMI CRIME STOPPERS**
Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:
- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

## Tides

Saipan Harbor

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1:27 AM | Today | Low Tide: | -0.4 Feet |
| 8:14 AM | Today | High Tide: | 2.0 Feet |
| 1:50 PM | Today | Low Tide: | 1.0 Feet |
| 7:02 PM | Today | High Tide: | 2.0 Feet |

## Sunrise/Sunset

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Today | 6:45 AM | 6:18 PM |
| Tuesday | 6:44 AM | 6:18 PM |
| Wednesday | 6:44 AM | 6:19 PM |
| Thursday | 6:44 AM | 6:19 PM |
| Friday | 6:43 AM | 6:19 PM |

## Moonrise/Moonset

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Today | 6:03 AM | 5:57 PM |
| Tuesday | 6:55 AM | 6:57 PM |
| Wednesday | 7:45 AM | 7:56 PM |
| Thursday | 8:34 AM | 8:56 PM |
| Friday | 9:22 AM | 9:54 PM |

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# FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JANUARY 24, 2016

## DEPARTURES

### SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| UA2924 | 4:15am | 5:05am | Daily |
| UA2922 | 8:40am | 9:30am | Daily |
| UA2921 | 1:30pm | 3:10pm | 1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota |
| UA2920 | 2:20pm | 3:10pm | 2, 3, 6 |
| UA2928 | 6:05pm | 6:55pm | Daily |
| UA2926 | 9:50pm | 10:40pm | Daily |

### SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| UA2921 | 1:30pm | 2:05pm | 1, 4, 5, 7 |

### ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| UA2921 | 2:35pm | 3:10pm | 1, 4, 5, 7 |

### SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| DL297 | 4:20pm | 7:10pm | Daily |

### SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| OZ626 | 2:10am | 6:00am | 1 |
| OZ626 | 2:50am | 6:40am | 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 |
| OZ628 | 3:50am | 7:40am | Daily |
| 7C3403 | 4:35am | 8:20am | Daily |
| 7C3401 | 4:30pm | 8:25pm | Daily |

### SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| OZ608 | 3:10am | 6:20am | 4, 7 |

### SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 3U8648 | 6:10am | 8:40am | 1, 4, 5, 7 |

### SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| MU764 | 1:30am | 5:30am | 1, 3, 5, 7 |

### SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 3U8646 | 4:20am | 7:30am | 2, 6 |

### SAIPAN-HANGZHOU (HGH)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| MU7162 | 5:10am | 08:00am | 2, 6 |

### SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| OZ626/701 | 2:10am | 11:15am | 1 via ICN |
| OZ626/701 | 2:50am | 11:15am | 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN |
| UA2924/191 | 4:15am | 9:00am | 3, 6 via GUM |
| UA2924/PR111 | 4:15am | 9:20am | 1, 2, 4, 6, 7 via GUM |
| UA2922/183 | 8:40am | 9:30pm | 2, 5 via GUM |
| UA2922/183 | 8:40am | 9:50pm | 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM |
| UA2922/193 | 8:40am | 11:10pm | 2, 5 via GUM-ROR |
| UA2921/183 | 1:30pm | 9:30pm | 5 via Rota-GUM |
| UA2921/183 | 1:30pm | 9:50pm | 1, 4, 7 via Rota-GUM |
| UA2920/183 | 2:20pm | 9:30pm | 2 via GUM |
| UA2920/183 | 2:20pm | 9:50pm | 3, 6 via GUM |
| UA2920/193 | 2:20pm | 11:10pm | 2 via GUM-ROR |
| UA2926/191 | 9:50pm | 7:20am+1 | 1, 6 via GUM |

### SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| OZ626/721 | 2:10am | 11:50am | 1 via ICN |
| OZ626/721 | 2:50am | 11:50am | 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN |
| OZ628/721 | 3:50am | 12:50am | Daily via ICN |
| UA2922/159 | 8:40am | 10:35pm | 1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM |
| UA2921/159 | 1:30pm | 10:35pm | 1, 5 via Rota-GUM |
| UA2920/159 | 2:20pm | 10:35pm | 3, 6 via GUM |

## ARRIVALS

### GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| UA2923 | 2:45am | 3:35am | Daily |
| UA2925 | 7:15am | 8:05am | Daily |
| UA2921 | 12:10pm | 1:00pm | 1, 4, 5, 7 |
| UA2920 | 12:10pm | 1:50pm | 2, 3, 6 via Rota |
| UA2927 | 4:45pm | 5:35pm | Daily |
| UA2929 | 8:30pm | 9:20pm | Daily |

### GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| UA2920 | 12:10pm | 12:45pm | 2, 3, 6 |

### ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| UA2920 | 1:15pm | 1:50pm | 2, 3, 6 |

### NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| DL298 | 10:35am | 3:10pm | Daily |

### SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 7C3402 | 10:10am | 3:30pm | Daily |
| OZ625 | 7:40pm | 1:00am+1 | 7 |
| OZ625 | 8:20pm | 1:40am+1 | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 |
| OZ627 | 9:30pm | 2:50am+1 | Daily |
| 7C3404 | 10:10pm | 3:30am+1 | Daily |

### BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| OZ607 | 9:00pm | 1:50am+1 | 3, 6 |

### SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 3U8647 | 10:40pm | 5:00am+1 | 3, 4, 6, 7 |

### BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| MU763 | 4:30pm | 12:30am+1 | 2, 4, 6, 7 |

### GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 3U8645 | 7:40pm | 3:00am+1 | 1, 5 |

### HANGZHOU (HGH)-SAIPAN

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| MU7161 | 10:00 pm | 5:30am | 1, 5 |

### MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| UA190/2929 | 9:55am | 9:20pm | 2, 6, 7 via GUM |
| UA190/2929 | 10:00am | 9:20pm | 3 via GUM |
| OZ702/625 | 12:30pm | 1:00am+1 | 7 via ICN |
| OZ702/625 | 12:30pm | 1:40am+1 | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN |
| OZ702/627 | 12:30pm | 2:50am+1 | Daily via ICN |
| PR110/UA2925 | 10:05pm | 8:05am+1 | 1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM |
| UA192/2920 | 10:20pm | 1:50pm+1 | 2, 5 via GUM-Rota |
| UA184/2925 | 10:55pm | 8:05am+1 | 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM |
| UA184/2921 | 10:55pm | 1:00pm+1 | 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM |
| UA184/2920 | 10:55pm | 1:50pm+1 | 1 via GUM-Rota |
| UA184/2927 | 10:55pm | 5:35pm+1 | 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM |
| UA184/2929 | 10:55pm | 9:20pm+1 | 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM |
| UA184/2925 | 11:59pm | 8:05am+1 | 2, 5 via GUM |
| UA184/2920 | 11:59pm | 1:50pm+1 | 2, 5 via GUM-Rota |
| UA184/2927 | 11:59pm | 5:35pm+1 | 2, 5 via GUM |
| UA184/2929 | 11:59pm | 9:20pm+1 | 2, 5 via GUM |

### HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| OZ722/625 | 1:15pm | 1:00am+1 | 7 via ICN |
| OZ722/625 | 1:15pm | 1:40am+1 | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN |
| OZ724/627 | 2:20pm | 2:50am+1 | Daily via ICN |
| UA116/2925 | 10:55pm | 8:05am+1 | 1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM |
| UA116/2921 | 10:55pm | 1:00pm+1 | 3, 6 via GUM |
| UA116/2920 | 10:55pm | 1:50pm+1 | 1, 5 via GUM-Rota |
| UA116/2927 | 10:55pm | 5:35pm+1 | 1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM |
| UA116/2929 | 10:55pm | 9:20pm+1 | 1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM |

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; 7C: Jeju AirETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

## STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

### TINIAN TO SAIPAN

| DEPARTURE | ARRIVAL | FREQUENCY |
|---|---|---|
| 6:30AM | 6:45AM | Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat |
| 7:30AM | 7:45AM | Daily |
| 8:30AM | 8:45AM | Daily |
| 9:30AM | 9:45AM | Daily |
| 10:30AM | 10:45AM | Daily |
| 11:30AM | 11:45AM | Daily |
| 12:30NN | 12:45NN | Daily |
| 1:30PM | 1:45PM | Daily |
| 2:30PM | 2:45PM | Daily |
| 3:30PM | 3:45PM | Daily |
| 4:30PM | 4:45PM | Daily |
| 5:30PM | 5:45PM | Daily |
| 6:30PM | 6:45PM | Daily |

### SAIPAN TO TINIAN

| DEPARTURE | ARRIVAL | FREQUENCY |
|---|---|---|
| 7:00AM | 7:15AM | Daily |
| 8:00AM | 8:15AM | Daily |
| 9:00AM | 9:15AM | Daily |
| 10:00AM | 10:15AM | Daily |
| 11:00AM | 11:15AM | Daily |
| 12:00NN | 12:15NN | Daily |
| 1:00PM | 1:15PM | Daily |
| 2:00PM | 2:15PM | Daily |
| 3:00PM | 3:15PM | Daily |
| 4:00PM | 4:15PM | Daily |
| 5:00PM | 5:15PM | Daily |
| 6:00PM | 6:15PM | Daily |

### SAIPAN TO ROTA

| DEPARTURE | ARRIVAL | FREQUENCY |
|---|---|---|
| 7:45AM | 8:15AM | Mon, Tues, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat |
| 4:00PM | 4:30PM | Mon, Tues, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat |

### ROTA TO SAIPAN

| DEPARTURE | ARRIVAL | FREQUENCY |
|---|---|---|
| 8:30AM | 9:00AM | Mon, Tues, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat |
| 4:45PM | 5:15PM | Mon, Tues, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat |

2016

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Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

ADVERTISING SUPPLEMENT

February 8, 2016

# Year of the Monkey

## Monkey Year inspires kung fu, predictions of fire, disease

By LOUISE WATT
ASSOCIATED PRESS

BEIJING (AP)—The new Chinese year is the one to go bananas over. On Feb. 8, the zodiac calendar enters the Year of the Monkey—the ninth of 12 animal signs. Plastic monkeys are adorning shopping centers and office buildings, and government departments have been giving out toy monkeys.

美国塞班中华总会
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2016
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Happy New Year
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2016 Chinese New Year Lion Dance Schedule
1 TSL PLAZA 08:15 AM
2 TAKE CARE 08:30 AM
3 SAIPAN COMPUTER SERVICES 08:45 AM
4 JP CENTER 09:00 AM
5 TRANSAMERICA 09:25 AM
6 SAIPAN APPAREL 09:45 AM
7 POI AVIATION 10:00 AM
8 HANNAM MARKET 10:30 AM
9 NIC HEALTH/9922 11:00 AM
10 HYATT REGENCY SAIPAN 11:30 AM
11 QQ CAR RENTAL 11:45 AM
12 CANTON RESTAURANT 12:05 AM
13 MAJESTY RESTAURANT 12:40 PM
14 KANOA RESORT 02:00 PM
15 CENTURY TOURS, SAIPAN ADVENTURE 02:10 PM
16 ISHOP (KANOA) 02:20 PM
17 DFS (KANOA) 02:30 PM
18 SUBWAY 02:45 PM
19 IT&E 03:15 PM
20 CTSI, D&Q, COSMOS 03:30 PM
21 LET'S GO 03:40 PM
22 CENTURY HOTEL 04:10 PM
23 DOLLAR DAYS 04:30 PM
24 MICRO BEACH HOTEL 04:50 PM
25 FIESTA RESORT&SPA 05:00 PM
26 I SHOP(FIESTA) 05:10 PM
27 SAIPAN ADVENTURE (FIESTA) 05:20 PM
28 I LOVE SAIPAN(PDM) 05:30 PM
29 CHOMORRO HOUSE 05:45 PM
30 SUN LEADER MARKET 06:00 PM
31 HYATT REGENCY 06:30 PM
32 I LOVE SAIPAN 07:00 PM
33 CLUB C 07:30 PM
34 DFS SAIPAN LIMITED 08:00 PM
35 LOUIS VUITTON 08:20 PM
36 BEST SUNSHINE LIVE 08:30 PM
37 WORLD RESORT 09:00 PM
CHINESE ASSOCIATION
SAIPAN, CNMI

Having a baby in the Year of the Monkey is generally thought to be more auspicious than in that of its predecessor, the sheep, and the cute creature is in any case largely beloved by the masses for its playful and human-like characteristics, despite a penchant for stealing food.

The new lunar year is already boosting a fighting style that imitates the movements of a monkey. It also offers an excuse to cash in on China's most famous monkey - Sun Wukong, or the Monkey King - a fabled demon-slayer.

AP

In this Feb. 2, 2016 photo, Hong Kong feng shui master Louis Wong poses after an interview in Hong Kong. Wong foresees "a lot of fires happening around the world, especially in the forests. So we need to watch out for fire hazards," he said. "Southeast Asia will see a lot of viruses or disease, so we need to be very careful about the Zika virus now."

Less happily, feng shui predictions foresee fire, disease and volatile stocks.

A look at what mischief the Year of the Monkey may have in store.

### MISCHIEF

Those born in the Year of the Monkey are held to be playful, mischievous and clever—much like a monkey.

"Many people say people born in the Year of the Monkey are smart and have a very good imagination, but it is thought that their chances of achieving success are not very good as they are less capable of executing things," said Beijing resident Wang Jinping, whose zodiac sign is the monkey.

As is customary when it is the year of one's zodiac, Wang, who turns 60 this year, will be wearing red to ward off bad spirits. Ahead of the new lunar year, the museum manager was already wearing a red silk jacket in the style of those worn by officials more than a century ago at formal occasions, bought for him by his daughter-in-law's mother.

"My son and daughter-in-law also bought me four pairs of long red underwear, four red underpants and four pairs of red socks," he said. "Actually I don't think these are something people must wear, but, in my year, the Year of the Monkey, I must do things very prudently and cautiously."

### MORE BIRTHS EXPECTED

This year, not only has China's one-child policy been loosened to a two-child policy, but some superstitious Chinese will be raring to give birth. During the previous 12 months, the Year of the Sheep or Goat (it's the same character in Chinese), some people were reluctant to have children as they considered the year inauspicious and believed sheep babies would be more likely followers than leaders.

According to China's national statistics, there were 16.55 million births in 2015, compared with 16.87 million in 2014. Some state media reports have attributed the drop in births last year to the Year of the Sheep.

### FIRES AND VIRUSES

Market ups and downs, fires and viruses, the Year of the

See MONKEY on Next Page

# MONKEY

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Monkey is predicted to have them all.

Hong Kong feng shui master Louis Wong foresees "a lot of fires happening around the world, especially in the forests. So we need to watch out for fire hazards," he said. "Southeast Asia will see a lot of viruses or disease, so we need to be very careful about the Zika virus now."

To enhance a couple's relationship this year, Wong advises placing a pink crystal on the woman's side of the bedroom and a purple crystal on the man's side. He added: "And if we want them to have fewer quarrels and arguments, we can put a firecracker behind the door." While watching out for fire risks, of course.

Wong cautioned that bad luck is more likely to befall those who are monkeys—"they need to be careful about their career and wealth"—and tigers—"they need to be careful about accidents, especially car accidents."

Wong says the lucky signs in the coming year will be the dragon and rat. "For the people born in the Year of the Dragon it will be good for their career and wealth, while for the rat it is good for their relationships with people," he said.

A Hong Kong brokerage that publishes a tongue-in-cheek annual feng shui report said the Chinese territory's Hang Seng stock index would perform decently until a downward swing mid-year, followed by a recovery.

"Overall, it's a year for slow, considered expansion, not for raucous monkey antics," it advises.

The CLSA brokerage says U.S. presidential campaigner Donald Trump should watch his cash outflow and beware the "golden-tongued" Hilary Clinton, who was born in the Year of the Pig and is therefore a good pal of the monkey.

## JUNGLE OUT THERE

Also on the agenda: A revival in houquan, or monkey kung fu. Practitioners imitate monkey moves, in the same way as other strands of martial arts are based on animals such as tigers and white crane.

The monkey style dates back to China's Western Han Dynasty around 200 B.C., said Chen Qifang, the head of Lin'an City Martial Arts Council in Zhejiang province. "It's a kind of kung fu that attempts to imitate a monkey's lively, mischievous and cute features with some of its typical moves like leaping, somersaulting, scratching ears and looking around as if for peaches or to see if someone is attacking its territory."

Because of its somersaults and other challenging moves, it's not as popular as other styles, says Chen.

His organization has taught houquan in the past, but never seen as many primary school students sign up for it as in its latest class—almost 200.

"The coming Year of the Monkey may boost the resurgence of houquan, as it would be a lot of fun for the kids to show off some monkey moves at the family party during the Chinese New Year holiday," he added.

## MONKEY BUSINESS

The Year of the Monkey gives a little-needed excuse to reference the much loved Monkey King character from the 16th century adventure novel "Journey to the West." The supernatural Monkey King, also known as Sun Wukong, accompanied a monk on a journey to retrieve sacred scriptures and the story has inspired countless TV shows and movies over the years.

Unashamedly trying to capitalize on the new zodiac year, yet another Monkey King adaptation will be released on the first day of the lunar new year—Feb. 8. The 450 million yuan ($68 million) budget movie stars Aaron Kwok as Sun, Feng Shaofeng as the monk and Gong Li playing the skeleton demon.

GONG XI FA CAI
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# A Chinese New Year Story

Chinese New Year starts with the New Moon on the first day of the new year and ends on the full moon 15 days later. The 15th day of the new year is called the Lantern Festival which is celebrated at night with lantern displays and children carrying lanterns in a parade.

The Chinese calendar is based on a combination of lunar and solar movements. The lunar cycle is about 29.5 days. In order to "catch up" with the solar calendar the Chinese insert an extra month once every few years (seven years out of a 19 year cycle). This is the same as adding an extra day on leap year. This is why, according to the solar calendar, the Chinese New Year falls on a different date each year.

## Chinese New Year 15-Day Celebration

The first day of the Lunar New Year is "the welcoming of the gods of the heavens and earth." Many people abstain from meat on the first day of the new year because it is believed that this will ensure long and happy lives for them.

On the second day, the Chinese pray to their ancestors as well as to all the gods. They are extra kind to dogs and feed them well as it is believed that the second day is the birthday of all dogs.

The third and fourth days are for the sons-in-laws to pay respect to their parents-in-law.

The fifth day is called *Po Woo.* On that day people stay home to welcome the God of Wealth. No one visits families and friends on the fifth day because it will bring both parties bad luck.

On the sixth to the 10th day, the Chinese visit their relatives and friends freely. They also visit the temples to pray for good fortune and health.

The seventh day of the New Year is the day for farmers to display their produce. These farmers make a drink from seven types of vegetables to celebrate the occasion. The Seventh day is also considered the birthday of human beings. Noodles are eaten to promote longevity and raw fish for success.

On the eighth day the Fijian people have another family reunion dinner, and at midnight they pray to *Tien Gong*, the God of Heaven.

The ninth day is to make offerings to the Jade Emperor.

The 10th through the 12th are days that friends and relatives should be invited for dinner. After so much rich food, the 13th day should have a change in diet with a simple bland congee and mustard greens to cleanse the system.

The 14h day should be for preparations to celebrate the Lantern Festival which is to be held on the 15th night.

## The Lantern Festival

The Lantern Festival is celebrated on the 15th day of the new year. The Lantern Festival seems to have originated in ancient times as a ceremony to usher in the increasing light and warmth of the sun after the winter's cold.

Some of the lanterns are cubical, round, square, flat, thin and oblong. Most are constructed of red paper which is the symbol of joy and festivity.

## Festival Customs

Many of the customs associated with the Lantern Festival have to do with eating. One such custom was known as "eating taro under the lanterns." Taros were boiled until they were soft. Around midnight, all family members would eat the taros. Some people believed that eating the taros would improve their eyesights.

Besides eating, there were many types of colorful and exciting performances for people to enjoy. Most widespread of all were the dragon dance and the lion dance, though the stilt dancers with their carnival spirit were the most popular.

## Stilt Walkers

Stilts are basically wooded poles with footrests at a certain height above the bottom. They enable a person standing on the footrests to walk above the ground. In the West, stilts are often considered as children's playthings. They are also associated with circus and parade performers, commonly referred to as stilt-walkers. However, in China, the use of stilts has been rather sophisticated, not only in parades, but also as entertainment with acrobatics and drama. In parades, the stilt walkers are dressed in various costumes, usually with a theme which relates to some popular story or folk tale. The stilt walkers are also associated with various religious festivals and temple celebrations, as they act out the various heroic epics and deeds of various deities.

## Lion Dance

The Chinese Lion Dance, as we know it today, has a continuous history of some one thousand years. The first record of the performance of an early and more primitive form of the Lion Dance dates back to the early Ch'in and Han Dynasties (3rd century B.C.)

The lion dance is very important to the Asian people. It gives meaning to life. In the consecration of temples, new buildings and other construction, events and businesses, planting and harvesting, celebration of official acknowledgment and public recognition festivals, religious rites—for all these and more, the Lion Dance plays an essential role. (www.cpafoundation.org)

## Chinese New Year is a Time of Family Reunions

New Year's Eve and New Year's Day are celebrated as a family affair, a time of reunion and thanksgiving. The celebration was traditionally highlighted with a religious ceremony given in honor of Heaven and Earth, the gods of the household, and the family ancestors.

The sacrifice to the ancestors, the most vital of all the rituals, united the living members with those who had passed away. Departed relatives were remembered with great respect in the past as they still are today because they were responsible for laying the foundations for the fortune and glory of the family.

The presence of the ancestors is acknowledged on the eve of the New Year with a dinner setting arranged for them at the family banquet table. The spirits of the ancestors, together with the living, celebrate the onset of the New Year as one great community. The communal feast called "surrounding the stove" *(weilu)* symbolizes the unity of the family and honors the past and present generations of the lineage

## Traditional New Year Foods

Probably more food is consumed during the period of celebrating New Year than any other time in the year. In addition to preparing vast amounts of traditional food for family and friends, food is also cooked for those close to us who have died.

On New Year's Day the Chinese family will eat a vegetarian dish called *jai.* Although the various ingredients in *jai* are root vegetables or fibrous vegetables, many people attribute various symbolic aspects to them:

**Lotus seed**—signify having many male offspring

**Gingko nuts**—represents silver ingots

**Black moss seaweed**—is a homonym for exceeding in wealth

**Dried bean curd**—is another homonym for fulfillment of wealth and happiness

**Bamboo shoots**—is a term which sounds like "wishing that everything would be well"

*See STORY on Next Page*

## STORY

*From Page 16*

**Bean curd or Tofu**—is not included as it is white and unlucky for New Year as the color signifies death and misfortune.

Other foods are a whole fish to represent togetherness and abundance and a chicken for prosperity. The chicken must be presented with a head, tail and feet, to symbolize completeness. Noodles should be uncut, noodles represent long life. In south China the favorite and most typical dishes were *nian gao*, sweet steamed glutinous rice pudding and *zong zi (*glutinous rice wrapped up in reed leaves*)*, another popular delicacy. In the north, steamed wheat bread (*man tou*) and small meat dumplings were the preferred food. The tremendous amount of food prepared at this time was meant to symbolize abundance and wealth for the household

### Chinese New Year's Decorations

Prior to Chinese New Year Day, we decorate our living rooms with vases of pretty blossoms, platters of oranges and tangerines and a candy tray with eight varieties of dried sweet fruit. On walls and doors are poetic couplets, happy wishes written on red paper. These messages sound better than the typical fortune cookie messages. For instance, "May you enjoy continuous good health" and "May the Star of Happiness, the Star of Wealth and the Star of Longevity shine on you" are especially positive couplets.

### Plants and Flowers

Lunar New Year is one of the most important of all Chinese traditional holidays. It is a time for celebrating family, luck, fortune, and prosperity. In celebrating this 15-day long celebration there are many symbolic traditions and good luck charms involved. Come join us here at Old Shanghai in the viewing of the Chinese New Year Fruits and Flowers Display.

Partnering with the Asian Art Museum, we are here to share and educate everyone about our Lunar New Years celebratory traditions. In the meantime, stroll through our store and browse our thousands of Asian inspired home décor, apparel, and accessories and be inspired to infuse your home with a touch of traditional China. Old Shanghai is located at 645 Grant Avenue, San Francisco, CA (nearest cross street is California St). Feel free to visit us online at www.oldshanghaionline.com.

Every traditional Chinese household should also have live blooming plants to symbolize rebirth and new growth. Flowers are believed to be symbolic of wealth and high positions in one's career. Lucky is the home with a plant that blooms on New Year's Day itself for that foretells a year of prosperity. In more elaborate settings, plum blossoms just starting to bloom are arranged with bamboo and pine sprigs, the grouping symbolizing friends—the plum blossom also signifies reliability and perseverance; the bamboo is known for its compatibility, its utility and its flexible stems for furniture and other articles; the evergreen pine evokes longevity and steadiness. Other highly prized flowers are the pussy willow, azalea, peony, and water lily or narcissus.

The Chinese firmly believe that without flowers, there would be no formation of any fruits. Therefore, it is of the utmost importance to have flowers and floral decorations. They are the emblems of reawakening of nature, they are also intimately connected with superstition and with the wish for happiness during the ensuing year.

### Oranges and Tangerine

Etiquette dictates that you must bring a bag of oranges and tangerines and enclose a *lai see* when visiting family or friends anytime during the two week long Chinese New Year celebration. Tangerines with leaves intact assure that one's relationship with the other remains secure. For newlyweds, this represents the branching of the couple into a family with many children. Oranges and tangerines are symbols for abundant happiness.

### Candy Tray

The candy tray arranged in either a circle or octagon is called "The Tray of Togetherness" and has a dazzling array of candy to start the New Year sweetly. Each item represents some kind of good fortune. After taking several pieces of candy from the tray, adults places a red envelope (*lai see*) on the center compartment of the tray

**Candied melon**—growth and good health
**Red melon seed**—dyed red to symbolize joy, happiness, truth and sincerity
**Lychee nut**—strong family relationships
**Kumquat**—prosperity (gold)
**Coconut**—togetherness
**Peanuts**—long life
**Longnan**—many good sons
**Lotus seed**—many children

The holiday is shared by millions of people with much zest in Chinatowns throughout the world. The atmosphere in our local Chinatown is colorful and carnival like. In fact, a carnival does take place right at Portsmouth Square (located in San Francisco Chinatown). Street vendors bring out to the sidewalk products associated with the occasion: festive dried goods and candy, flowers and plants, and packets of red envelopes in all sizes and always decorated with calligraphy or characters in gold.

### Taboo and Supersitions House Cleaning

The entire house should be cleaned before New Year. On New Year's Eve, all brooms, brushes, dusters, dust pans and other cleaning equipment are put away. Sweeping or dusting should not be done on New Year for fear that good fortune be swept away. After New Year's day, the floors may be swept. Beginning at the door the dust and rubbish are swept to the middle of the parlor, then placed in the corners and not taken or thrown out until the fifth day. At no time should the rubbish in the corners be trampled upon. In sweeping, there is a superstition that if you sweep the dirt out over the threshold, you will sweep one of the family away. Also to sweep the dust and dirt out of your house by the front entrance is to sweep away the good fortune of the family; it must always be swept inwards and then carried out, then no harm will follow. All dirt and rubbish when taken out must never be through the front entrance but by the back door.

### Bringing in the New Year and Expelling the Old

Shooting off firecrackers on New Year's Eve is the Chinese way of sending out the old year and welcoming in the new year. On the stroke of twelve on New Year's Eve, every door in the house, and

*See STORY on Page 19*

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# China lets the good times roll for the 'Year of the Monkey'

By JONATHAN KAIMAN
LOS ANGELES TIMES

BEIJING—China's Spring Festival (or "Chinese New Year") celebrations begin this week. The festival will usher in the Year of the Monkey—the ninth sign in the 12-year zodiac cycle, sandwiched between the sheep and the rooster. According to traditional Chinese belief, babies born this year—so-called monkey babies—will be smart, curious, cute and perhaps a bit condescending. Here's a further look at the celebrations and some related numbers:

AP

A worker hangs red lanterns near the monkey and teddy bears soft toys display on a store set up for a temple fair ahead of Chinese Lunar New Year at Ditan Park in Beijing, Saturday, Feb. 6, 2016. Parks and temples across the capital city are gear up for the Lunar New Year celebrations on Feb. 8 this year which marks the Year of Monkey on the Chinese zodiac.

### 7

The number of days China will essentially grind to a halt. Starting Sunday, schools will empty, shops will close, factories will shut down as the annual Spring Festival gets underway. The festival, marking the beginning of a new lunar calendar year, is celebrated throughout the world, from Beijing to Singapore to ethnic Chinese communities across the U.S. Many Chinese describe it as Christmas and New Year's Eve rolled into one, a time to reunite with family, eat, drink, swap gifts, give offerings to ancestors and chase away evil spirits.

### 2.91 billion

The number of domestic trips that China's Ministry of Transport estimates will be made over the new year travel period—which runs between Jan. 21 and March 3. That's up 3.6 percent from last year. In what's often called the world's largest human migration, highways, train stations and airports fill to capacity with travelers, many of them migrant workers returning to their rural hometowns. Spring Festival is China's most important holiday, so people try to make it count. Sleepy villages spring to life as returnees host big, boozy banquets for family, friends and whoever else manages to stop by.

### 100,000

The number of travelers who were stranded in the main train station of the southern Chinese city of Guangzhou last Monday, as heavy wind and rain led to extensive train delays. Pictures of miserable-looking crowds jammed around station entrances went viral on social media; local officials dispatched 2,600 security guards to keep the situation under control. That night, inclement weather left an additional 30,000 passengers stranded in Shanghai's Hongqiao Railway Station, leading to even more disgruntled passengers and viral social media posts. Train service has since resumed, but massive, migrating crowds remain a fixture of the holiday season.

### 6 million

The record number of outbound trips expected to be made during the weeklong holiday, according to Ctrip.com, a popular Chinese travel website—an indication that a growing number of people are choosing to escape the migratory crush by traveling abroad. Chinese outbound tourism rose 12.1 percent in 2015 over 2014, with most travelers visiting other Asian countries and regions, such as Taiwan, South Korea and Thailand.

### 690 million

The estimated number of people who tuned in to last year's "Spring Festival Gala," a notoriously cheesy, large-scale variety show broadcast on state-run television every year since 1983. This year's broadcast begins at 8 p.m. Sunday. The show's popularity has waned in recent years, as more people stream their entertainment online—last year's ratings marked an eight-year low, according to the China Daily. (The number is still massive—by comparison, NBC's 2012 London Olympics broadcast reached 219 million viewers, making it the "most-watched television event in U.S. history," according to the network.)

### 6

The number of people killed in an explosion "likely caused by illegally made fireworks" in southern China's Guizhou province last Monday, state broadcaster CCTV reported. People traditionally lighted fireworks during the holiday to frighten away evil spirits; now they do it mainly for fun. Every Spring Festival, Chinese state media issue scores of cautionary reports about fireworks-related casualties, part of a top-down push to cut down on accidents and air pollution.

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## STORY

*From Page 17*

even windows, have to be open to allow the old year to go out.

### New Year Activites Set Precedent

All debts had to paid by this time. Nothing should be lent on this day, as anyone who does so will be lending all the year. In olden times when tinder and flint were used, no one would lend them on this day or give a light to others.

Everyone should refrain from using foul language and bad or unlucky words. Negative terms and the word "four" (*Ssu*) as it sounds like the like the word for death are not uttered. Death and dying are never mentioned and ghost stories are totally taboo. References to the past year is also avoided as everything should be turned towards the new Year and a new beginning.

If you cry on New Year's day, you will cry all through the year. Therefore, children are tolerated and are not spanked, even though they are mischievous.

### Personal Appearance and Cleanliness

One New Year's Day, we are not suppose to wash our hair because it would mean we would have washed away good luck for the new year. Red clothing is preferred during this festive occasion. Red is considered a bright, happy color, sure to bring the wearer a sunny and bright future. It is believed that appearance and attitude during New Year's sets the tone for the year to come. Children and unmarried friends, as well as close relatives are given *lai see*, little red envelopes with crisp one dollar bills inserted, for good fortune.

### Miscellaneous New Year Superstitions

For those most superstitious, before leaving the house to call on others, the Almanac should be consulted to find the best time to leave the home and the direction which is most auspicious to head out.

The first person one meets and the first words heard are significant as to what the fortunes would be for the entire year. It is a lucky sign to see or hear songbirds or red-colored birds or swallows.

It is considered unlucky to greet anyone in their bedroom so that everyone, even the sick, would get dressed and sit in the living room.

Do not use knives or scissors on New Year Day as this may cut off fortune.

It is doubtful that Chinese today actually believe in these do's and don'ts however, these traditions and customs are still practiced. These traditions and customs are kept because most families realize that is these very traditions, whether believed or not, that provide continuity with the past and provide the family with an identity. ***(www.chineseparade.com)***

A new year, a new start, a new chapter, a new beginning, have a blessed new year ahead.
Happy Chinese New Year of the Monkey.
猴 Kung Hei Fat Choi!

From the management and staff of

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With each passing moment, let us embrace the New Year of the Monkey with a brighter, colorful, and joyous future.
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**May you have a good fortune in the year of the monkey, and start a new journey that leads to success.**

ALTER CITY GROUP wish all of you have a prosperous business
and an auspicious year of the Fire Monkey.

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# Nation

## ACROSS THE NATION

### Chicago officer sues estate of teen he shot, claiming trauma

**CHICAGO** (AP)—A white Chicago police officer who fatally shot a black 19-year-old college student and accidentally killed a neighbor has filed a lawsuit against the teenager's estate, arguing the shooting left him traumatized. The highly unusual suit was filed Friday in the middle of the city's effort to grapple with serious questions about the future of its police force. Those questions include the adequacy of its system for investigating police shootings and how to win back public trust after several cases of alleged misconduct. The U.S. Justice Department is conducting a wide-ranging civil rights investigation, and Mayor Rahm Emanuel has promised a major overhaul of the Police Department and steps to heal its fraught relationship with black residents. The timing and unusual nature of the suit by officer Robert Rialmo, who is seeking $10 million in damages, could complicate the department's efforts to demonstrate more sensitivity toward the community in how police shootings are handled. His attorney, Joel Brodsky, said it was important in the charged atmosphere to send a message that police are "not targets for assaults" and "suffer damage like anybody else."

### Tampa police: 1 dead, 7 injured in shooting at club

**TAMPA, Fla.** (AP)—A shooting at a strip club early Saturday morning in Tampa, Florida, left one person dead, seven injured and police searching for answers. Hours later, Crime Stoppers of Tampa Bay said it was offering a reward of up to $3,000 for information leading to the identification and arrest of the person—or people—who fired the shots. Tampa Police spokesman Stephen Hegarty said in a news release that the shots were fired at Club Rayne, located just north of the Tampa's downtown, shortly after 2 a.m. The club with the bright purple exterior was described in online reviews by patrons as having "beautiful women and great music." Marvin Douglass Lancaster III, 21, of Brandon was killed in the shooting, according to Lt. John Preyer of the Tampa police.

### Man accused of IS-inspired plot to attack Detroit church

**DETROIT** (AP)—Authorities have arrested a 21-year-old Michigan man whom they accuse of supporting Islamic State militants and plotting to attack a Detroit church. Khalil Abu-Rayyan, of Dearborn Heights, appeared Thursday in U.S. District Court in Detroit and remains jailed pending a Monday hearing. He hasn't been charged with terrorism-related crimes but has been investigated since May and faces marijuana and gun charges. U.S. attorney's office spokeswoman Gina Balaya said Saturday that Abu-Rayyan will have a court-appointed attorney at the hearing, but she doesn't know who it would be. She said Abu-Rayyan had been under constant FBI surveillance recently due to growing concern about threats he made against the church, police officers and others in support of IS. There's no indication he was acting with others, authorities said.

### Pilot's husband doesn't believe she survived collision

**LOS ANGELES** (AP)—The husband of a pilot who was involved in a midair collision that sent at least one plane plunging into the ocean near the Port of Los Angeles says he believes she did not survive the accident. Richard Falstrom told The Associated Press on Saturday that his wife, Mary Falstrom, told him the nice weather beckoned her to go fly. He said she never came home and that he's certain her small-engine plane went down. "She loved flying. It was a passion," he said, adding that she has decades of piloting experience. His comments came hours after the U.S. Coast Guard suspended the active search for three missing people and instead turned to hunting bodies and wreckage. Two men, ages 61 and 81, were aboard a plane that was seen on radar colliding with another aircraft flown by a 72-year-old woman around 3:30 p.m. Friday, officials said.The first plane was a Beech 35 Bonanza and the second was a Citabria, said Allen Kenitzer, a spokesman for the Federal Aviation Administration. However, Falstrom said his wife flew a Super Decathlon, an aerobatic plane by the same maker of the Citabria.After reports of the crash, divers converged on an area about two miles outside a harbor entrance where a small debris field was found. The water there was 80 to 90 feet deep.

CORAL OCEAN GOLF RESORT

## JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

**(2) Bartender** Salary : $6.05 to $8.00
High School Diploma or equivalent. At least one year experienced working as a Bartender. Knowledge in different variety of cocktail, tropical, alcoholic or non-alcohol drinks. Must be able to create and possess broad ideas for mixing, creating and serving drinks. Excellent interpersonal skills with a positive attitude, professional, neat and well groomed at all times. A ""People Person"", acquired hospitality related program and speaking additional languages preferred but not required. Knowledge of principles and processes for providing customer and personal services including handling large group of customers. Computer literate. Be able to stand for prolonged period of time. Able to obtain Food Handler Certification. Willing to work in flexible shifts, days, evening, weekends and holidays.

**(2) A/C Technician** Salary : $6.05 to $8.50
High School Diploma or eqivalent. At least to three years working experienced in the related fiels. Must have apprenticeship or on-the-job training and certification. E.P.A licensure is a plus. Knowledgeable in installing, maintaining and repairing heating, ventilation, air-conditioning and refrigeration systems, testing pipe or tubing joints, connections for leaks, testing electrical circuits,repairing or replacing defective equipment, components, or wiring, changing filters, cleaning ducts, or refilling non-toxic refrigerants. Must be able to perform physical activities, such as but not limited to, lifting equipment atleast 50lbs, bending, standing, climbng, can be able to work under the sun, and can stand for prolonged period if time. Willing to work in flexible shifts, days, evening, weekends and holidays.

**(5) General Maintenance** Salary : $6.05 to $8.50
High School Diploma or equivalent. At least two to three years of work related experienced. Engineering Degree or related courses is an asset but not required. Knowledge in keeping machines, mechanical equipment or other structure of an establishment in repair. Experience involving generators, water pumps, irrigation, deepwell, pipe fitting, insulating, repairing electrical or mechanical equipment, building repair that may include carpentry, plumbing, masonry and painting task. Must be able to perform physical activities, such as but not limited to, lifting equipment atleast 50lbs, bending, standing, climbng, can be able to work under the sun, and can stand for prolonged period if time. Willing to work in flexible shifts, days, evening, weekends and holidays.

**(2) Electrician** Salary: $6.05 to $8.50
High School Diploma or equivalent. At least twp to three years working experienced in the related field. Must be able to operate required tools, equipment, assemble, install, maintain, repair electrical aparatus, estimate cost of electrical materials. Knowledgeable in electrical theory and methods, applicable and federel code and regulations pertaining electricla trade, computer logic and programming, inspection and identification, and distribution of electrical system. Experienced in fabrication is preferred but not required.Must be able to perform physical activities, such as but not limited to, lifting equipment atleast 50lbs, bending, standing, climbng, can be able to work under the sun, and can stand for prolonged period if time. . Must be able to handle hazardous materials safety and tolarate exposure to electrical and other environmental hazards. Willing to work in flexible shifts, days, evening, weekends and holidays.

**(3) Greenskeepers** Salary: $6.05 to $7.50
High School Diploma or equivalent. At least three months of work related experience and knowledge in maintaining and monitoring daily operations of the golf course greens. Requires advanced knowledge of agronomy and turf grass management practices, handling chemicals such as fertilizers and pesticides. Knowledge of safe, efficient mechanical equipment such as tractors, mowers, and driving other motorized equipment. Knowledge of diesel and gasoline equipment operations. Ability to use hand and power tools and equipment, ability to follow oral and written directions. Must be able to work under the sun and can stand for prolonged period of time and capable of lifting at least 50lbs. Pesticide applicator license preferred but not required. Willing to work in flexible shifts, days, evening, weekends and holidays.

**(3) Cook (International Cuisine)** Salary: $6.05 to $8.50
High School Diploma or equivalent. Six months to a year of work related experienced. Culinary Degree preferred but not required. Excellent interpersonal, neat nad well groomed at all times. Be able to stand for prolonged period of time.Full understaniding of licensing responsibilities and environmental health standards. And a highly qualified in preparing variety of food and knowledgeable in processing and food production of International Cuisine, like salad, appetizers, dessert and main entrees. Able to obtain Food Handler Certification. Willing to work in flexible shifts, days, evening, weekends and holidays.

**Room Division Manager** Salary Range : $11.37 to $15.50
Bachelor's Degree in Hospitality or Business Management or equivalent. At least five years working excperience management level in an hotel industry. Knowledge of principles and processes for providing customer, personal services and interpret financial data like budgets and expense reports, requiring computer skills, mathematics, and basic accounting. Speaking additional language like Japanese, Chinese and Korean language is an advantage. Knowledge in hotel system Fidelio or Opera is preferred but not required. Experienced handling large group of arrivals. Excellent interpersonal skills with a positive attitude, professional, neat and well groomed at all times. Acquired hospitality related program is an asset. A "People Person". Must be able to stand for a prolonged period of time. Willing to work in flexible shifts, days, evening, weekends and holidays.

**(2) Landscapers** Salary : $6.05 to $7.50
High School Diploma or equivalent. Need anywhere from a few days to a few months of training. Considerable knowledge of methods of landscaping, occupational hazards and safety precautions applicable for grounds keeping, knows proper use of chemicals, fertilizers, and pesticides, cultivation, weed control, seeding, planting of trees and nursing beds. Ability to use hand and power tools and equipment. Knowledge of use and care of motorized equipment and hand/power tools used in grounds maintenance work. Job maybe require walking, standing, bending, lifting, climbing in a long period of time. Willing to work in flexible shifts, in all weather conditions with excessive dusts or dirt, evenings, weekend and holidays.

**(3) Waiter/Waitress** Salary Range : $6.05 to $7.50
High School Diploma one equivalent. At least three months of work related experience. Excellent interpersonal skills with a positive attitude, professional, neat and well groomed at all times. A "People Person", acquired hospitality related program and speaking additional languages preferred but not required. Knowledge of principles and processes for providing customer and personal services including handling large group of customers. Be able to stand for prolonged period of time. Able to obtain Food Handler Certification. Willing to work in flexible shifts, days, evening, weekends and holidays.

**(7) Housekeepers** Salary Range : $6.05 to $7.50
High School Diploma or equivalent. Few months to one year related work experienced. Knowledge of principles and process for providing customer and personal services including handling large group of arrival. Must be able to understand and follow instructions and out task in order and willing to work under pressure with the specified number of rooms or duties assigned in everyday. Has the ability to be extent flexibility that includes bending, twisting and lifting. Computer literacy is preferred but not required. Willing to work in flexible shifts, days, evenings, weekend and holidays. Be able to stand for prolonged period of time and must possess a friendly and good manners.

**Front Desk Clerk (2-Korean Speaking)** Salary: $6.05 to $7.50
High School Diploma or equivalent. At least six months to a year of related work experience in the hotel and golf course industry. Knowledge of principles and processes for providing customer and personal services including handling large group of arrivals. Excellent interpersonal skills with a positive attitude, professional, neat and well groomed at all times. Acquired hospitality related program is an asset but not required. A "People Person", be able to speak additional languages is preferred but not required. Physically capable to lift at least 50lbs and have a valid driver's CNMI license. be able to stand for prolonged period of time and must possess a friendly and good manners. Knowledge in the game of game of golf preferred but not required. Willing to work in flexible shifts, days, evening, weekends and holidays.

**(2) Housekeeping Supervisor** Salary: $6.05 to $9.00
High School Diploma or equivalent. At least need anywhere from a few months to one year of working with experienced employees. Knowledge of principles and process for providing customer and personal service including handling large group of arrival. Must have the ability to supervise, experience performing housekeeping duties, hardworking, leadership ability, keen observation skills, and be detail oriented. willing to work under pressure with the specified number of rooms or duties assigned in everyday. Has the ability to be extent flexibility that included bending, twisting and lifting. Computer literate. Willing to work in flexible shifts, days, evenings, weekend and holidays. Be able to stand prolonged period of time and must possess a friendly and good manners.

**(3) Cook (Western Cuisine)** Salary: $6.05 to $8.50
High School Diploma or equivalent. Six months to a year of work related experienced. Culinary Degree preferred but not required. Excellent interpersonal, neat nad well groomed at all times. Be able to stand for prolonged period of time.Full understaniding of licensing responsibilities and environmental health standards. And a highly qualified in preparing variety of food and knowledgeable in processing and food production of Western Cuisine, like salad, appetizers, dessert and main entrees. Able to obtain Food Handler Certification. Willing to work in flexible shifts, days, evening, weekends and holidays.

**Golf Operation Manager** Salary Range : $11.37 to $15.50
Bachelor's Degree Business Management or equivalent. At least five years working excperience management level in the capacity of Manager in related operation. Knowledge of principles and processes for providing customer, personal services and interpret financial data like budgets and expense reports, requiring computer skills, mathematics, and basic accounting. Full understanding of licensing responsibilities and environmental health standards. Requires advanced knowledge of agronomy and turf grass management practices; a working knowledge of golf facility construction principles, practices and methods; and a thorough understanding of the rules and strategies of the game of golf. Requires excellent oral and written communication and knowledge in the game of golf. May require current certificate or licensing as pesticide applicator. Must be able to work under the sun, can stand for prolonged period of time and can lift at least 50lbs . Willing to work in flexible shifts, days, evening, weekends and holidays.

Suwaso Corporation would like to invite all qualified US workers to send their resume/application form to hr.copspn@gmail.com or submit it to Coral Ocean Golf Resort, Human Resources Department no later than February 15, 2016 @11:00 am. Please include at least two recommendation letters. No phone calls please.


# World

# N. Korea praises rocket; others see covert missile test

**SEOUL, South Korea** (AP)—For North Korea's propaganda machine, the long-range rocket launch Sunday carved a glorious trail of "fascinating vapor" through the clear blue sky. For South Korea's president, and other world leaders, it was a banned test of dangerous ballistic missile technology and yet another "intolerable provocation."

The rocket launched from North Korea's west coast only two hours after an eight-day launch window opened Sunday morning, its path tracked separately by the United States, Japan and South Korea. No damage from debris was reported.

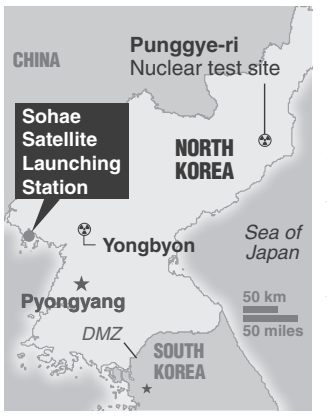
North Korea, which calls its launches part of a peaceful space program, said it had successfully put a new Earth observation satellite, the Kwangmyongsong 4, or Shining Star 4, into orbit less than 10 minutes after liftoff. It vowed more such launches. A U.S. official said it might take days to assess whether the launch was a success.

The launch follows North Korea's widely disputed claim last month to have tested a hydrogen bomb. Washington and its allies will consider the rocket launch a further provocation and push for more tough sanctions. The United States and Japan quickly requested an emergency meeting of the U.N. Security Council on Sunday morning, saying Pyongyang violated a council ban on ballistic missile launches.

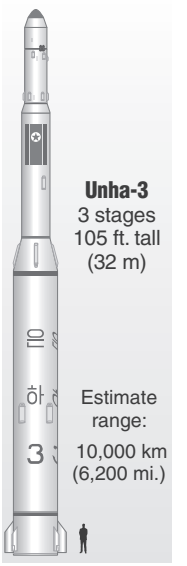
North Korean rocket and nuclear tests are seen as crucial steps toward the North's ultimate goal of a nuclear armed missile that could hit the U.S. mainland. North Korea under leader Kim Jong Un has pledged to bolster its nuclear arsenal unless Washington scraps what Pyongyang calls a hostile policy meant to collapse Kim's government. Diplomats are also pushing to tighten U.N. sanctions because of the North's Jan. 6 nuclear test.

## South Korea warns North Korea not to launch satellite

*North Korea on Tuesday informed international organizations of its plans to launch an Earth observation satellite on a rocket between Feb. 8 and 25.*




**Dec. 12, 2012:** North Korea launched a **Unha-3** rocket and placed a satellite into orbit after a string of failures. The upcoming launch is expected to take place on a rocket similar to the Unha-3




Source: northkoreatech.org, AP, BBC

Graphic: Staff, Tribune News Service

# Taiwan rescuers find signs of life in quake rubble

**TAINAN, Taiwan** (AP)—Rescuers on Sunday found signs of life within the remains of a high-rise residential building that collapsed in a powerful, shallow earthquake in southern Taiwan that killed at least 19 people, as families anxiously waited on site.

The emergency center in Tainan, the worst-hit city, said Sunday that 171 people had been rescued from the building following the magnitude-6.4 quake that struck at dawn Saturday.

Tainan Mayor Lai Ching-te said in TV interviews from the site of the building collapse that there was an estimated 124 still trapped, many at the bottom of the wreckage. Lai said that they had been able to rescue many people by using information from residents who got out on the possible locations of those still inside.

A man in his early 30s was pulled out from the rubble Sunday morning and able to tell rescuers his name and other information.

A man in his 60s, whose son escaped and whose daughter-in-law was in serious condition in a hospital, was trying to help rescuers pinpoint his grandsons. "My 11- and 12-year-old grandsons are still inside on the ninth floor," said the man, who only gave his surname, Huang. "I told my son not to buy an apartment here; it was suspiciously cheap."

Beside him, another man nodded in agreement as he waited for news of his own relatives on the seventh floor.

The emergency center and the city government said that 17 of the 19 confirmed deaths were from the building collapse. They said that 171 had been rescued from the building, 90 of whom were sent to a hospital. Another 104 people were rescued from other parts of the city, seven of whom received hospital treatment.

## WORLD BRIEFS

### Iraq's Abadi dismisses Baghdad wall plans

**BAGHDAD** (AP)—The Iraqi Prime Minister is dismissing plans to build a wall around the Iraqi capital, according to a statement released by his office Saturday night. The plan for the wall was originally drafted by the Interior Ministry as an effort to prevent Islamic State group attacks inside Baghdad. "Baghdad is the capital for all Iraqis and it's not possible for a wall or a fence to isolate the city," Haider al-Abadi said in the statement. The Interior Ministry's spokesman, police Brig Gen Saad Maan, told The Associated Press last week that work had begun on the wall and that it would reduce the number of checkpoints inside the city. Bombings and attacks are still a near daily occurrence in Baghdad, mainly targeting security forces and the country's Shiite majority.

### Algeria's parliament to vote on a new constitution

**ALGIERS, Algeria** (AP)—Algeria's parliament will be voting on a new constitution that's aimed at reforming the country by limiting presidents to two terms and recognizing the language used by its Berber minority as official. The new text is being presented Sunday to the assembly and the senate. It was promised by 79-year-old President Abdelaziz Bouteflika and his government following the 2011 Arab Spring uprisings in neighboring countries. It limits presidents to two five-year terms. The long-ailing Bouteflika was re-elected for a fourth term in 2014. The charter would also require a parliamentary majority to name a prime minister, who is now appointed by the president. It includes Amazigh as an official language in a move hailed by activists, who had pushed for recognition for years. Arabic would remain the official government language.

### Militants free Australian woman kidnapped in Burkina Faso

**NIAMEY, Niger** (AP)—Militants have freed an Australian woman kidnapped last month in northern Burkina Faso, a spokesman for the president of neighboring Niger said Saturday. Jocelyn Elliott and her husband—surgeon Ken Elliott—were kidnapped on Jan. 15 near the Burkina Faso town of Djibo, where they have run a medical clinic for four decades. Al-Qaida's North Africa wing claimed responsibility for the kidnapping Friday, saying the operation was part of a bid to secure the release of its imprisoned fighters, according to an audio recording translated by the SITE Intelligence Group, which tracks jihadi activity online. The group, al-Qaida in the Islamic Maghreb, said in the same recording that it would release Jocelyn Elliott without conditions so as "not to make women involved in the war." Both Elliotts are in their 80s.

### El Salvador arrests 4 ex-soldiers in massacre of Jesuits

**SAN SALVADOR, El Salvador** (AP)—Salvadoran police have arrested four former soldiers wanted in Spain for the 1989 murder of six Jesuit priests during the Central American country's brutal civil war, officials said Saturday. Five of the priests were Spanish and their killings sparked international outrage. Salvadoran President Salvador Sanchez Ceren later called on the military officers still fugitive in the case to turn themselves in to authorities. "There are people who have hidden; we don't know if they have left the country, but my recommendation is that they turn themselves in to justice," he said. "We need to know the truth about what happened in the past, but we also need justice as well as pardon." In a Twitter post Saturday, El Salvador's national police said the four ex-soldiers were arrested at the behest of Interpol in an operation that began Friday night.

# Health & Fitness

## Getting to the 'heart' of sleep

**From Mayo Clinic News Network**

Sleep is essential for a healthy heart. People who don't sleep enough are at higher risk for heart disease. One study that examined data from 3,000 adults over age 45 found that those who slept fewer than six hours per night were about twice as likely to have a stroke or heart attack as people who slept six to eight hours per night. Sleep deprivation is a growing problem, with 28 percent of adults now reporting that they get six or fewer hours of sleep per night.

It's not clear why less sleep is detrimental to heart health, but researchers understand that sleeping too little causes disruptions in many normal functions of the body, including blood sugar levels and blood pressure.

"Lack of sleep also is a 'weighty' issue. In a 2012 study I conducted, 17 people ages 18 to 40 spent 15 days in our research lab and were allowed to eat as much as they wanted. Half the group was only allowed to sleep two-thirds of their normal sleep time; the other half served as controls and were allowed the full amount," says Mayo Clinic Health System cardiologist Andrew Calvin. "We found that the test group ate an average of 559 additional calories each day. More importantly, it didn't seem that the people who were awake longer burned more calories from additional activities. Our study concluded that if that rate of consumption kept going, the people who slept less could gain up to one pound a week."

"Furthermore, those in the study who slept less had signs that their blood vessels didn't work as well, something called endothelial dysfunction. Endothelial dysfunction is found in people at risk for heart attacks, so this is a worrisome finding that should be explored further," adds Dr. Calvin.

Another condition that can affect heart health is sleep apnea, a condition that causes people to wake frequently throughout the night. This disrupted sleep can lead to higher blood pressure at night and during the day, and may increase the risk for heart attacks and stroke. One study found that over an eight-year period, men with severe sleep apnea were 58 percent more likely to develop congestive heart failure than men without the nighttime breathing disorder. But it doesn't take a severe underlying sleep disorder to see effects on the heart. Poor sleeping, as a result of changing work schedules or poor sleep habits, for example, can put you at risk as well.

"Don't compromise your heart health," says Dr. Calvin. "Do your best to make quality sleep a priority in your life. This isn't being lazy; it's good wisdom. The National Sleep Foundation recommends that adults get seven to nine hours of sleep a night."

February is Heart Awareness Month.

***(Mayo Clinic News Network is your source for health news, advances in research and wellness tips)***

MCT
Sleep is essential for a healthy heart.

## Colombia: 3,177 pregnant women with Zika; no microcephaly

**BOGOTA, Colombia** (AP)— Colombia's President Juan Manuel Santos said Saturday that there's no evidence Zika has caused any cases of the birth defect known as microcephaly in his country, though it has diagnosed 3,177 pregnant women with the virus.

Santos also announced that a U.S. medical-scientific team will arrive in Colombia to help investigate the mosquito-borne virus.

Brazilian officials say they suspect Zika is behind a seemingly unusual number of microcephaly cases, in which children are born with unusually small heads. The link is not confirmed, but it has helped prompt the World Health Organization to declare an emergency over the virus.

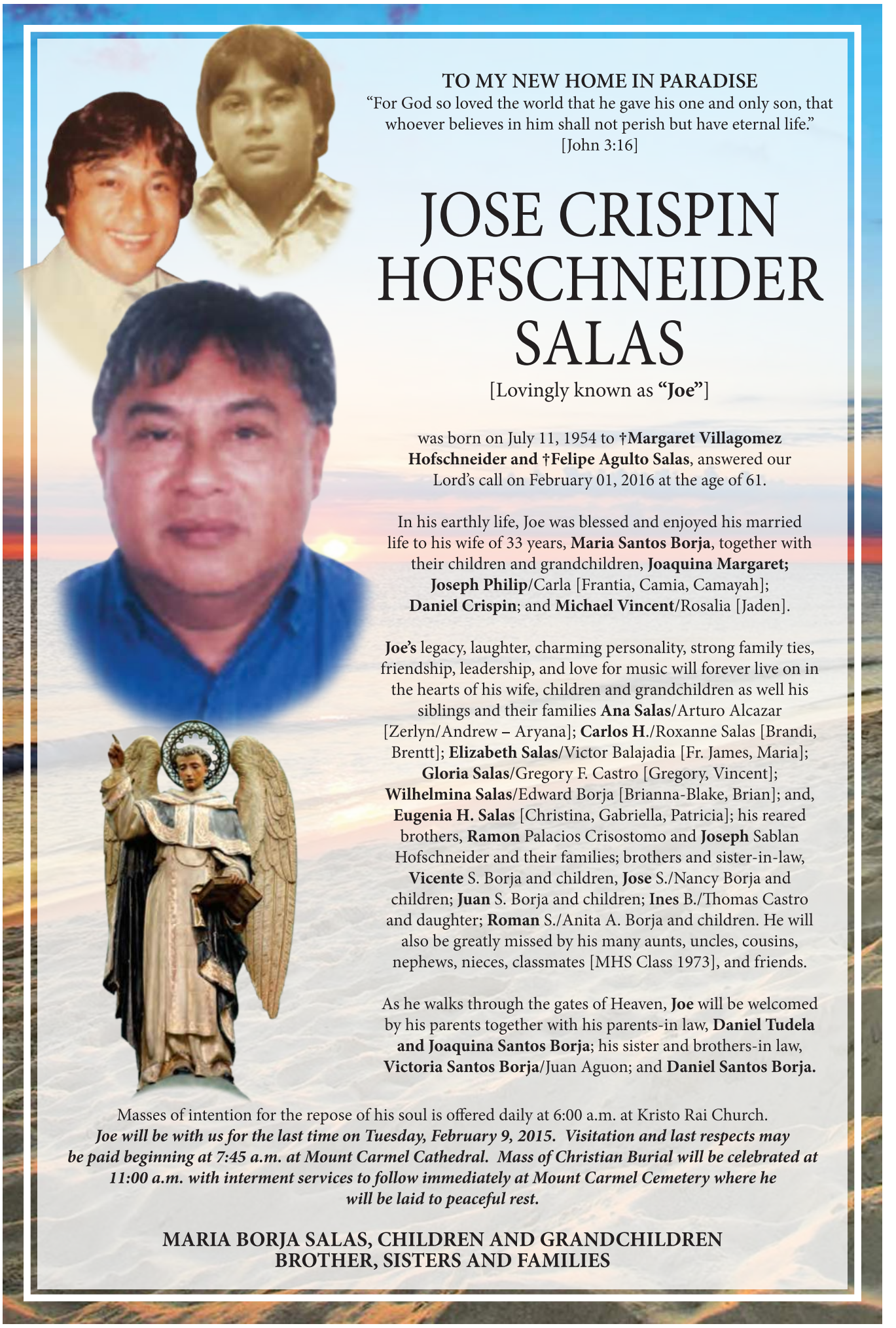
Santos says Zika apparently has affected more than 25,600 Colombians overall.

Colombian officials said Friday that three people had died of the paralyzing Guillain-Barre syndrome they attributed to cases of Zika.

To date, the mosquito-borne virus has spread to more than 20 countries in the Americas.

With global concern over the Zika virus growing, health officials are warning pregnant women to be careful about who they kiss and calling on men to use condoms with pregnant partners if they have visited countries where the virus is present.

The flurry of recommendations began in Brazil, where a top health official said that scientists have found live virus in saliva and urine samples, and the possibility it could be spread by the two body fluids requires further study.



**TO MY NEW HOME IN PARADISE**

"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."
[John 3:16]

# JOSE CRISPIN HOFSCHNEIDER SALAS

[Lovingly known as **"Joe"**]

was born on July 11, 1954 to †**Margaret Villagomez Hofschneider and †Felipe Agulto Salas**, answered our Lord's call on February 01, 2016 at the age of 61.

In his earthly life, Joe was blessed and enjoyed his married life to his wife of 33 years, **Maria Santos Borja**, together with their children and grandchildren, **Joaquina Margaret; Joseph Philip**/Carla [Frantia, Camia, Camayah]; **Daniel Crispin**; and **Michael Vincent**/Rosalia [Jaden].

**Joe's** legacy, laughter, charming personality, strong family ties, friendship, leadership, and love for music will forever live on in the hearts of his wife, children and grandchildren as well his siblings and their families **Ana Salas**/Arturo Alcazar [Zerlyn/Andrew – Aryana]; **Carlos H.**/Roxanne Salas [Brandi, Brentt]; **Elizabeth Salas**/Victor Balajadia [Fr. James, Maria]; **Gloria Salas**/Gregory F. Castro [Gregory, Vincent]; **Wilhelmina Salas**/Edward Borja [Brianna-Blake, Brian]; and, **Eugenia H. Salas** [Christina, Gabriella, Patricia]; his reared brothers, **Ramon** Palacios Crisostomo and **Joseph** Sablan Hofschneider and their families; brothers and sister-in-law, **Vicente** S. Borja and children, **Jose** S./Nancy Borja and children; **Juan** S. Borja and children; **Ines** B./Thomas Castro and daughter; **Roman** S./Anita A. Borja and children. He will also be greatly missed by his many aunts, uncles, cousins, nephews, nieces, classmates [MHS Class 1973], and friends.

As he walks through the gates of Heaven, **Joe** will be welcomed by his parents together with his parents-in law, **Daniel Tudela and Joaquina Santos Borja**; his sister and brothers-in law, **Victoria Santos Borja**/Juan Aguon; and **Daniel Santos Borja.**

Masses of intention for the repose of his soul is offered daily at 6:00 a.m. at Kristo Rai Church.

***Joe will be with us for the last time on Tuesday, February 9, 2015. Visitation and last respects may be paid beginning at 7:45 a.m. at Mount Carmel Cathedral. Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 11:00 a.m. with interment services to follow immediately at Mount Carmel Cemetery where he will be laid to peaceful rest.***

**MARIA BORJA SALAS, CHILDREN AND GRANDCHILDREN**
**BROTHER, SISTERS AND FAMILIES**

# Life & Style

## Directors Guild gives top award to Mexican director Inarritu

**LOS ANGELES** (AP)—Mexican director Alejandro Inarritu won the top feature film directing award Saturday from the Directors Guild of America for his work on "The Revenant."

Inarritu won the same award last year for this direction of "Birdman," a film about the struggles of a Hollywood actor. He won an Oscar for best directing for that film.

Inarritu competed against Tom McCarthy ("Spotlight"), Adam McKay ("The Big Short"), George Miller ("Mad Max: Fury Road") and Ridley Scott ("The Martian").

The annual Directors Guild of America Awards can herald the eventual Oscar winners in the best director and picture categories.

Saturday's ceremony also offered a telling look at who's working behind the camera in Hollywood amid the industry's ongoing discussion about diversity.

Women comprise about 28 percent of nominees for the awards that recognize achievement in directing in various formats, from commercials to TV shows to feature films. There are 14 women and eight non-white nominees among the slate of 47 directors.

"I'm the only woman on both of the feature lists, so that feels like a lot of responsibility," said Marielle Heller, who joined the Directors Guild after making "The Diary of a Teenage Girl," for which she is nominated for achievement by a first-time feature filmmaker. "I'm hoping that next year we'll be at least half of that list, and then by the next year, there shouldn't be any men on that list, right?"

Heller lost to "Ex-Machina" director Alex Garland in the inaugural category.

Women, who represented just over 4 percent of directors of the top-grossing films from 2002 to 2013, have better representation in the television categories. Of the six nominees for directing a TV miniseries or movie, three are women - Angela Bassett ("Whitney"), Laurie Collyer ("The Secret Life of Marilyn Monroe") and Dee Rees ("Bessie")—the most of any DGA Awards category. They face Kenny Leon and Matthew Diamond ("The Wiz Live!") and Paul Haggis ("Show Me a Hero").

Amy Schumer is nominated for co-directing her Comedy Central show, and Chris Rock is nominated for directing Schumer's "Live at the Apollo" HBO special.

Awards in all categories will be presented Saturday night during a dinner ceremony at the Hyatt Regency Century Plaza hotel in Los Angeles.

AP

Director Alejandro Gonzalez Inarritu, a feature film award nominee for "The Revenant," poses with his nomination medallion at the 68th Directors Guild of America Awards at the Hyatt Regency Century Plaza on Saturday, Feb. 6, 2016 in Los Angeles.

## Angelina Jolie's film 'Unbroken' finally opens in Japan

AP

Moviegoers wait before Angelina Jolie's "Unbroken" opens in front of a movie theater in Tokyo, Saturday, Feb. 6, 2016.

**TOKYO** (AP)—Angelina Jolie's "Unbroken" opened Saturday more than a year after the rest of the world in Japan, where the main character endures as a prisoner of war and where some have called for a boycott of the movie.

There were concerns that right-wing extremists may try to disrupt the opening. But the crowd at Theatre Image Forum in Tokyo, a small theater that specializes in independent films and documentaries, was peaceful, appearing engrossed in the film, flinching at the torture scenes and sympathizing with the hero, Louis Zamperini.

The distributor said in a statement that it decided to go ahead with the showing because various views on war should be expressed, and because it was unnatural for a movie about Japan not to be shown in the country.

A publicity official said the company had received some angry calls when it first announced the film's showing in October. Other than that, nothing unusual happened, and the film is scheduled to be shown in other theaters throughout Japan.

"Unbroken" is based on the true story of Zamperini, an Olympic athlete who gets shot down in a U.S. bomber and survives by floating in the ocean on an inflatable boat, but gets captured by the Japanese. He survives horrible torture in World War II camps until Japan's defeat in 1945.

Much of the negative chatter on social media in Japan about "Unbroken," which still continues to some extent, alleges that the movie is "anti-Japanese."

Many taking offense at the film are outraged that the book on which the movie is based mentions that Japanese soldiers engaged in cannibalism, although the film does not touch on the subject at all. Some historians say some Japanese soldiers did engage in cannibalism.

The anger over "Unbroken" has brewed despite Japan boasting a long list of directors who made distinguished anti-war movies, including Akira Kurosawa and Kihachi Okamoto. Nagisa Oshima's "Merry Christmas, Mr. Lawrence," starring David Bowie, has a plot similar to "Unbroken," taking place in a POW camp.

But some in Japan have also had a hard time coming to terms with the country's brutal past of colonizing Asian neighbors and the barbaric acts carried out by the Imperial Army, such as the Rape of Nanjing, which began in 1937 and left 300,000 Chinese dead.

Similarly, they reject historical studies that show women from several Asian countries, especially Korea, were forced into prostitution by the Japanese military. Some oppose the term "sex slave," which the U.N. uses, preferring the euphemistic "comfort women."

In "Unbroken," Japanese characters do little but grunt, scream, punch and kick.

Still, the film ends on a reconciliatory note, showing an elderly Zamperini proudly carrying the torch for the 1998 Nagano Olympics, and Japanese on the streets cheering.

As a young man, Zamperini had competed in the 1936 Berlin Olympics as a runner, and had hopes to go to the next games, set to be held in Tokyo. But by then the war had started.

After seeing "Unbroken," Katsuyuki Miyata, a member of the Japanese Self-Defense Forces, said that the closing scene was the best part of the film.

## Wife says singer and band leader Dan Hicks dies at age 74

**MILL VALLEY, Calif.** (AP)—Dan Hicks, a musician whose work in the 1960s helped define San Francisco's psychedelic sound, has died. He was 74.

The singer, songwriter and bandleader-who led the musically eclectic band Dan Hicks and the Hot Licks-died Saturday after a two-year battle with throat and liver cancer, his wife, CT Hicks, said on his website and his Facebook page.

"He was true blue, one of a kind, and did it all his own way always," she wrote. "To all who loved him, know that he will live forever in the words, songs, and art that he spent his life creating."

Hicks began his musical career in San Francisco in the 1960s, where he played drums for rock band The Charlatans, which, along with Jefferson Airplane and the Grateful Dead, had significant influence on the city's music scene.

He formed the Hot Licks in the early 1970s, which drew critical and commercial success by blending country, blues, jazz, swing and humorous lyrics. The group's hits include "I Scare Myself" and "Canned Music." The group's last album, "Last Train to Hicksville," helped land Hicks on the cover of Rolling Stone magazine.

The Hot Licks broke up in 1973 at the height of its popularity.

## Bernie Sanders makes 'SNL' appearance with Larry David

**NEW YORK** (AP)—Democratic presidential candidate Bernie Sanders has made a cameo appearance on "Saturday Night Live" with Larry David, the comic who has done a dead-on impersonation of him.

But "SNL" resisted the temptation to have the Vermont U.S. senator appear next to David as he was playing him. Sanders portrayed a passenger on an endangered ship who argued with David about who should be allowed on a lifeboat.

David said he should be on the lifeboat because he was richer than everybody else. Sanders appeared and said he was sick of the 1 percent getting all of the advantages.

David replied: "Sounds like socialism to me."

AP

Democratic presidential candidate Sen. Bernie Sanders, I-Vt., is captured in a television camera monitor as he addresses the crowd at a campaign rally at Grand View University in Des Monies, Iowa, Sunday, Jan. 31, 2016.

# Ryan Reynolds torn about picking between Manning, Newton

**SAN FRANCISCO** (AP)—Ryan Reynolds will be watching Sunday's Super Bowl—he's just not sure which team he wants to win.

The Canadian actor said he's a fan of both the Carolina Panthers and Denver Broncos.

"I love Peyton, I've watched him my whole life, but I also really like the story of Cam Newton. I just think he's amazing," he said.

While he wasn't picking sides, he did joke that the Panthers would win by a longshot: "I think they're going to win by about 100 points."

Though Reynolds was in San Francisco on Saturday—about an hour away from the big game—he said he was going to watch the Super Bowl with his actress-wife Blake Lively and daughter from his own couch.

"I'm going to watch it from the comfort of my own home. I have a one-year-old daughter and I'm getting back to her and my wife and we're going to watch it there, so I'm out of here tonight," he said.

Reynolds was busy promoting his new film, "Deadpool," about the Marvel antihero known for his salty language and off-humor. Though he was torn about his Super Bowl pick, that wasn't the case for his co-star, actor-comedian T.J. Miller.

"Yeah, buddy, I'm from Denver! Mile high till I die. It's the 303," said Miller, who plays Reynolds' best friend in the new film and also stars in HBO's "Silicon Valley."

"Deadpool" is in theaters on Feb. 12. Super Bowl 50 will air live on CBS from Levi's Stadium in Santa Clara, California.

AP

Actor Ryan Reynolds poses for photographers upon arrival at a fan screening of the film 'Deadpool', in central London, Thursday, Oct. 28, 2016.

# Beyonce releases new song day before Super Bowl appearance

**SAN FRANCISCO** (AP)—Another Beyonce surprise project has lit up social media and caused a frenzy of excitement a day before the superstar's planned Super Bowl performance.

Beyonce released "Formation" on Saturday as a free download on her artist page for the streaming service, Tidal, which she co-owns with husband Jay Z, Rihanna and other artists. The song, along with a music video, was released as a gift to her fans and it can be downloaded without having a subscription to Tidal.

"Formation" is a gritty street anthem that, perhaps not coincidentally for Black History Month, has lyrics that express black pride with an exclamation point. One lyric: "I like my Negro nose with Jackson Five nostrils."

And a cheeky line about her man's sexual prowess earning him a trip to Red Lobster had the seafood chain a top trending topic on Twitter Saturday afternoon.

The video features a brief cameo from her daughter, Blue Ivy, who dances with a group of young girls.

Beyonce will perform at the halftime show at Levi's Stadium in Santa Clara, California, with Coldplay and Bruno Mars. Beyonce headlined the Super Bowl halftime show in 2013 in New Orleans.

At the end of 2013 Beyonce dropped the album "Beyonce" unannounced on iTunes; it went platinum in days.

AP

In this Oct. 20, 2015 file photo, singer Beyonce arrives at TIDAL X: 1020 Amplified by HTC at the Barclays Center in New York.

# Iggy Azalea: I have more belief in myself as a trendsetter

**SAN FRANCISCO** (AP)—As Iggy Azalea readies the release of her sophomore album, the rapper says she's feeling more self-assured and less worried about being or sounding cool.

"I think I'm more confident, and I think I have more belief in what I think is cool rather than worrying about what other people are going to like," Azalea said in an interview Friday.

"I think I have more belief in myself in being a trendsetter, which all artists should. So I hope to maybe move the dial a little bit more than I did last time," she added.

The 25-year-old made the comments before she performed at a Sports Illustrated pre-Super Bowl Party in San Francisco—a city she said she loves visiting. Azalea said she wasn't attending Sunday's Super Bowl in Santa Clara, California, but she's happy to watch Beyoncé, Bruno Mars and Coldplay perform during the halftime show.

"I have to go home and work, but I will be watching them on television. I'm excited to watch them at home," the pink-haired performer said.

She signed autographs and took photos with fans outside of the 1015 Folsom nightclub, and inside she shook hands with concertgoers in the loud crowd while also performing songs like "Fancy" and "Black Widow."

AP

Iggy Azalea performs at the Sports Illustrated Super Bowl Party held at 1015 Folsom on Friday, Feb. 5, 2016, in San Francisco.

# Band's frontman: No Super Bowl halftime show for Metallica

**SAN FRANCISCO** (AP)—While Metallica has steadily attracted more of a mainstream audience throughout its 35-year career, frontman James Hetfield feels they will never play the Super Bowl, and he doesn't seem to mind.

"As far as us playing halftime for the Super Bowl, I have a feeling that ship has passed," Hetfield told The Associated Press before a sound check on Friday in San Francisco.

He added: "We're not a variety show. We're not pop. We're not sparkly, and all that kind of stuff that seems to be what's needed for that."

While not sparkly, pop, or a variety act, the band is more versed at rocking your socks off, so playing The Night Before concert Saturday at AT&T Park provides a better alternative for their devoted fan base.

"It's great to be hosting the thing. It would be great if my team was in it," Hetfield said of his team, the Oakland Raiders. "But having the city come alive with any kind of sport is great. The fact that we're here getting to represent Bay area music at The Night Before is pretty exciting."

Because the band is not currently on tour, Hetfield joked about the set list.

"All covers, no. All Coldplay, not even that, no. We're going to be doing probably a best of, you know, when you're in a situation like this . you know stadium, catchy, bouncy, and heavy, which we do," Hetfield said.

Coldplay will play the Super Bowl Halftime Show on Sunday with special guest Beyonce.

At the sound check for Saturday's concert, the band gave a few devoted members of their fan club a taste of what they can expect, playing classics like "Master of Puppets," and "(Welcome Home) Sanitarium."

# Parents supporting adult son are doing him no favors

DEAR ABBY: Nine years ago I married a man who has a son from a previous marriage. "Eli" is now 26 and lives "on his own." While he may live under a different roof than his parents, they support him financially. My husband and I pay Eli's car insurance, cellphone bill, toll tag, life insurance policy and whatever other things come up (passport, gym membership). Eli's mom assists with all of his utility bills, in addition to depositing money in his account monthly. They even turned over Eli's 529 tuition account to him.

I have tried explaining to my husband that they are enabling Eli, and the umbilical cord should have been cut years ago. Eli has never earned more than $12,000 a year and has no desire to try because he has an endless flow of financial support. His dad is retired but continues to work in order to help Eli—although he won't admit it.

This is straining our relationship because when I bring up this issue, he feels I am attacking his son. Am I unrealistic to expect an adult to support himself?

SEEING CLEARLY IN THE SOUTH

**DEAR SEEING CLEARLY: Not at all. You are being rational. Your husband and his ex may be fostering their son's cycle of financial dependence out of a sense of guilt—possibly because of their divorce. It may take counseling in order for him to understand that he and his ex are doing Eli no favors. Suggest it as part marriage counseling to ease the strain on your marriage.**

■■■

DEAR ABBY: I'm in the process of downsizing. I have two black graduation gowns and caps in excellent condition. I wore them proudly as an adult college student not long ago, and hate the thought of them being thrown in a landfill or used as Halloween costumes.

There must be schools where some students have a financial hardship and can't afford to buy their graduation gowns. However, I don't know of any organizations in my area that have a gown reuse program. Perhaps your loyal readers will have ideas?

DARLENE IN NEW YORK

**DEAR DARLENE: I'm sure they will. But in the meantime, may I offer a couple of suggestions? Contact the administration at the high schools or community colleges in your area and ask if they could use the gowns. Or contact a local community theater group and volunteer to donate them to their costume department.**

■■■

HAPPY NEW YEAR TO MY ASIAN READERS: The Year of the Monkey begins today. A happy, healthy new year to all who celebrate it. People born in the Year of the Monkey are witty, intelligent and have magnetic personalities. Clever in financial matters and career, lively and versatile, gentle and kind, these traits make them ideal partners if you want an everlasting love life. However: They must watch their tempers and a tendency toward arrogance.

LOVE, ABBY

■■■

Good advice for everyone—teens to seniors—is in "The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It." To order, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

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## DEAR ABBY

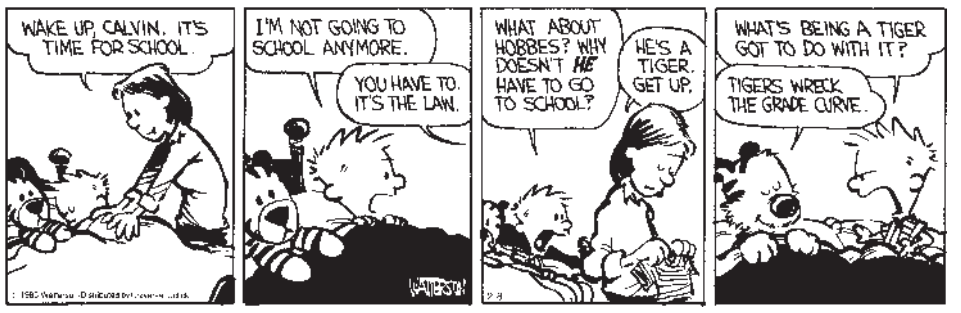
By Abigail Van Buren
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

*Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.*

# Pastimes

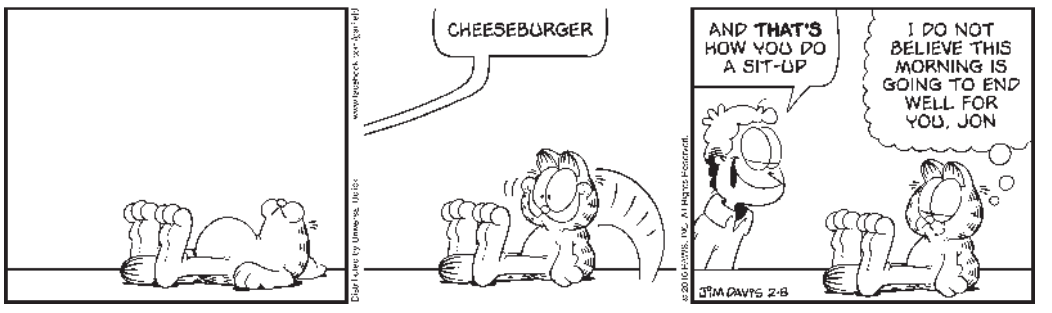
## Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson


WAKE UP, CALVIN. IT'S TIME FOR SCHOOL.
I'M NOT GOING TO SCHOOL ANYMORE.
YOU HAVE TO. IT'S THE LAW.
WHAT ABOUT HOBBES? WHY DOESN'T ME HAVE TO GO TO SCHOOL?
HE'S A TIGER. GET UP.
WHAT'S BEING A TIGER GOT TO DO WITH IT?
TIGERS WRECK THE GRADE CURVE.

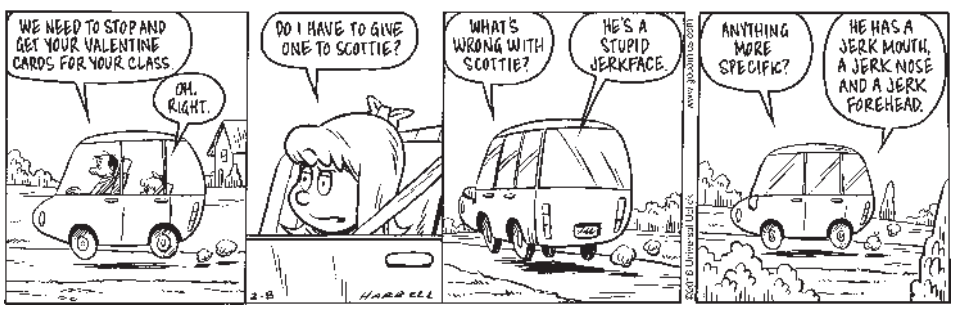
## Garfield®

By Jim Davis



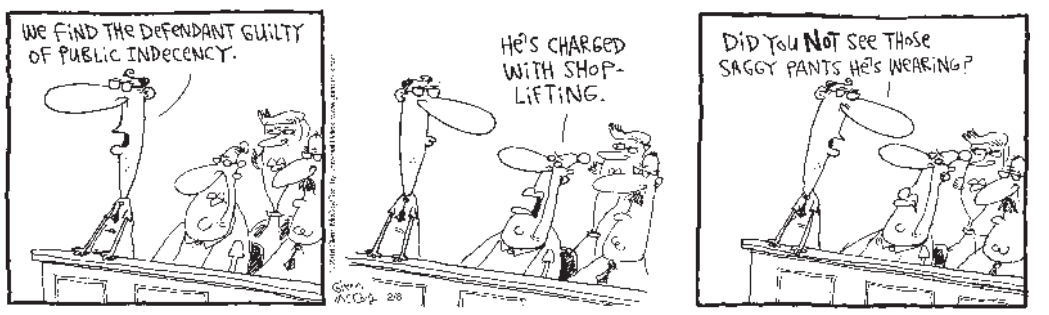

## Adam@home

By Bryan Basset


WE NEED TO STOP AND GET YOUR VALENTINE CARDS FOR YOUR CLASS.
OH. RIGHT.
DO I HAVE TO GIVE ONE TO SCOTTIE?
WHAT'S WRONG WITH SCOTTIE?
HE'S A STUPID JERKFACE.
ANYTHING MORE SPECIFIC?
HE HAS A JERK MOUTH, A JERK NOSE AND A JERK FOREHEAD.

## The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy


WE FIND THE DEFENDANT GUILTY OF PUBLIC INDECENCY.
HE'S CHARGED WITH SHOP-LIFTING.
DID YOU NOT SEE THOSE SAGGY PANTS HE'S WEARING?

## CROSSWORD

*By Eugene Sheffer*

**ACROSS**

1 Walked (on)
5 Compass dir.
8 Pan handler?
12 Bitterness
14 Circle dance
15 Grotesque building carving
16 Sciences' partner
17 Epoch
18 Shakespeare verse
20 Plain writing
23 Drill
24 In pain
25 Distorted, as a message
28 Business mag
29 Zodiac ram
30 Edge
32 Deep-red gemstones
34 Bud holder
35 Guitars' kin
36 Snag
37 Alaskan grizzly
40 Where Ger. is
41 Press
42 President after Hayes
47 Rescue
48 Former beau
49 Rosebud, to Kane
50 Conk out
51 Sea eagle

**DOWN**

1 Label
2 — Victor
3 Hockey's Bobby
4 Reader's — (magazine)
5 High-protein bean
6 NBC weekend show
7 Messy yards, e.g.
8 Chic Coco
9 Honker
10 Deco artist
11 Speedy
13 "Encore!"
19 Spheres
20 — Beta Kappa
21 Ladder part
22 Killer whale
23 Worms, e.g.
25 Hermes, for one
26 Part of Q.E.D.
27 Platter
29 "Diana" singer
31 "I'm not impressed"
33 Wiped out
34 Macho
36 Fit of anger
37 Smooch
38 Exam format
39 Cote cooer
40 "Das Lied von der —"
43 Frazier foe
44 Corn spike
45 Run after K
46 Ruby or Sandra

Solution time: 26 mins.

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| M | R | S | | A | F | A | R | | G | A | Z | A |
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| | | H | E | E | D | | E | T | H | O | S | |
| C | R | A | W | L | | T | I | D | F | | | |
| R | A | Y | S | | P | A | N | D | E | M | I | C |
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| G | A | D | G | E | I | H | Y | | E | S | S | O |
| | | | R | O | S | Y | | M | A | H | A | L |
| L | R | B | A | N | | | W | O | R | M | | |
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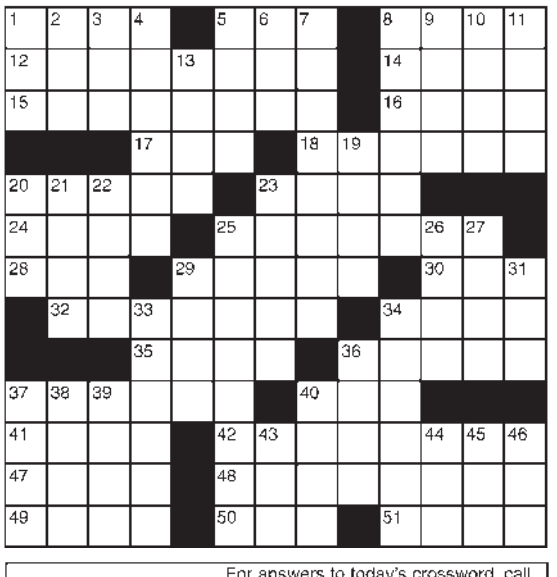
Friday's answer 2 - 8



**STUMPED?** For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

**CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY**: Seth Green, 42; Mary Steenburgen, 63; Robert Klein, 74; Nick Nolte, 75.

**Happy Birthday**: The changes and sacrifices you make will bring you good fortune. Take initiative and show more discipline when it comes to following through with your plans. Don't get angry; get moving. Inconsistency and procrastination will hold you back if you don't think things through carefully. Distance yourself from the people who drag you down. Your numbers are 8, 19, 21, 23, 27, 32, 40.

**ARIES** (*March 21-April 19*): Use your talents and skills to make improvements to whatever project you are working toward. Don't get bogged down with office politics or hearsay. Let your actions speak for you. Don't mix business with pleasure. ✪✪✪✪

**TAURUS** (*April 20-May 20*): Make your mark. Share your thoughts and doors will open. Refuse to let emotional issues hold you back. Don't fight a losing battle when you should be concentrating on getting ahead. Express your concerns, ideas and solutions and keep moving forward. ✪✪

**GEMINI** (*May 21-June 20*): Offer your services and negotiate on your own behalf. An honest assessment of a situation and how you propose to make things better will add to your credibility and allow you to get a better understanding of what's entailed. ✪✪✪✪✪

**CANCER** (*June 21-July 22*): Discuss your plans and form partnerships with people who are heading down a similar path. Nurture important relationships and share your feelings. Once you recognize where you stand, you will be able to make personal adjustments. ✪✪✪

**LEO** (*July 23-Aug. 22*): Emotional spending will be your downfall. If you want to make changes, do so prudently. Don't bring about changes that might jeopardize your professional position. Take a wait-and-see approach, but have solutions ready to implement. ✪✪✪

**VIRGO** (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): Enjoy your life and make a point to indulge in something that makes you feel good about your accomplishments. Don't feel pressured to make a snap decision regarding money, health or a contractual concern. Make romance a priority. ✪✪✪

**LIBRA** (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): Reassess your current situation, and don't feel the need to bend to what someone else wants. You have to satisfy your own needs before you can take care of others. Sign up for whatever will bring about positive personal change. ✪✪✪✪✪

**SCORPIO** (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): Make plans, discuss your intentions and express your feelings. Once you know exactly where you stand, you will be able to make decisions that will improve your life and help you move in a positive direction. Love is on the rise. ✪✪

**SAGITTARIUS** (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): Don't fool yourself into thinking you can splurge. Don't compromise your chances of doing something good for the people you love. A heartfelt discussion with someone special will help you make the right choice. ✪✪✪✪

## EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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**CAPRICORN** (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): You will make a lasting impression with the ideas and solutions you suggest. You can bring about a healthy financial change if you are diligent about what you do to get ahead. Celebrate with someone you love. ✪✪✪

**AQUARIUS** (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): Make changes for the right reasons. Don't let your emotions take over or a regrettable incident lead you down the wrong path. Protect against injury, accidents and arguments. Think rationally before you proceed. Discipline and mindfulness will be required. ✪✪✪

**PISCES** (*Feb. 19-March 20*): Money matters will become unstable if you overspend. Don't get involved in situations that require institutional intervention. Stick to rules, regulations and the truth. Focus on partnerships and associations with those involved in worthwhile causes. Romance will improve your personal life. ✪✪✪

**Birthday Baby**: You are insightful, competitive and steadfast. You are outspoken and proactive.

*Eugenia's website—**eugenialast.com**, Eugenia's android app @ **http://bit.ly/exhoro** and join Eugenia on **twitter/facebook/linkedin**.*

# SUDOKU

**Conceptis Sudoku** *By Dave Green*

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 3 | | | | 5 | | 1 | |
| 7 | | | 4 | | 1 | | | 9 |
| | | 5 | | 9 | | 3 | | |
| 5 | 8 | | 7 | | 2 | | 4 | |
| | | 6 | | | | 1 | | |
| | 9 | | 5 | | 6 | | 3 | 8 |
| | | 9 | | 6 | | 7 | | |
| 4 | | | 1 | | 8 | | | 3 |
| | 7 | | 3 | | | | 6 | |

Difficulty Level ★ 2/08

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Friday's SUDOKU Answer

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 4 | 6 | 5 | 2 | 9 | 3 | 8 | 7 |
| 5 | 8 | 7 | 6 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 9 | 4 |
| 3 | 2 | 9 | 8 | 7 | 4 | 1 | 6 | 5 |
| 4 | 6 | 1 | 2 | 9 | 7 | 8 | 5 | 3 |
| 9 | 7 | 5 | 3 | 8 | 1 | 4 | 2 | 6 |
| 2 | 3 | 8 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 1 | 9 |
| 6 | 5 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 8 | 9 | 7 | 2 |
| 8 | 9 | 2 | 7 | 3 | 5 | 6 | 4 | 1 |
| 7 | 1 | 4 | 9 | 6 | 2 | 5 | 3 | 8 |

Difficulty Level ★★★★ 2/8

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## WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

SNOWFLAKES IN THE FORECAST Solution: 7 letters

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| T | S | A | F | R | O | Z | E | N | H | C | T | A | C | G |
| R | E | T | Y | O | T | H | G | I | L | O | O | C | N | R |
| I | L | M | H | K | R | I | R | E | G | A | M | I | A | O |
| A | U | O | P | G | S | M | A | E | R | R | D | O | T | U |
| N | C | S | Y | E | I | R | S | O | P | L | E | U | U | N |
| G | E | P | D | L | R | N | P | S | O | A | E | T | R | D |
| U | L | H | S | L | L | A | B | F | F | U | P | S | A | N |
| L | O | E | D | O | V | I | T | L | E | M | A | I | L | W |
| A | M | R | R | R | C | S | H | U | H | N | H | D | E | I |
| R | R | E | V | L | I | S | O | C | R | P | S | E | P | N |
| E | Z | W | O | X | T | F | T | E | I | E | S | Z | U | T |
| V | N | U | F | I | A | A | T | G | A | E | D | I | A | E |
| O | D | O | C | L | W | T | O | N | G | U | E | S | R | R |
| C | L | K | L | S | A | M | T | S | I | R | H | C | G | C |
| D | D | R | O | P | L | E | T | S | E | G | N | A | H | C |

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Atmosphere, Catch, Changes, Chilly, Christmas, Clear, Cloud, Cool, Cover, Crisp, Design, Drift, Droplets, Fall, Folding, Forms, Frozen, Graupel, Ground, Idea, Image, Light, Melt, Molecules, Natural, Night, Outside, Paper, Pattern, Puffballs, Shape, Silver, Six-fold, Size, Sky, Stick, Temperature, Tongue, Triangular, Vapor, Watch, Water, Winter, Zero

**Last Thursday's Answer: Pin It**

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# CLASSIFIED ADS

## EMPLOYMENT

Director of Sales & Marketing. Minimum of ten (10) years Resort' Sales & Marketing management experience required. Minimum of three (3) years Executive position experience. Responsible for planning, developing and implementing Sales & Marketing strategies for all Market segments, including Russian market. Fluent English and Russian. Knowledge of CNMI Travel industry and Russian market required. E-mail resume to info@mangoresort.com. Contact Elly at (670) 989-3325 for more information.

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Saipan

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Interested applicants may send their applications to hr@kanoaresort.com. Application forms may be obtained at our Security Office located at the back wing of our resort. To be considered, applicants must be submitted not later than February 10, 2016. Background checks and pre-employment drug testing will be required prior to employment.

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P.O. Box 502607 CK
Saipan, MP 96950
Telephone: (670) 234-1615
Facsimile: (670) 234-5749

Attorney for Petitioner Luzviminda F. Arriola

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS**

| | |
|---|---|
| **IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF PEDRO C. ARRIOLA Deceased.** | **CIVIL ACTION NO. 15-0194**<br>**AMENDED NOTICE OF HEARING ON PETITION FOR LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION**<br>**Date: February 16, 2016**<br>**Time: 1:30 p.m.** |

**TO: THE GENERAL PUBLIC, ANY HEIRS, CLAIMANTS, OR CREDITORS OF THE LATE PEDRO C. ARRIOLA OR HIS ESTATE:**

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the hearing on **Luzviminda F. Arriola's** Petition for Letters of Administration and Appointment of Co-Administratices has been continued to **February 16, 2016,** at **1:30 p.m. Luzviminda F. Arriola** has petitioned the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands to issue Letters of Administration for the Estate of Pedro C. Arriola, the deceased. The attorney for Petitioner is **Charity R. Hodson, Attorney at Law, whose address is Plata Drive, Chalan Kiya, P.O. Box 502607, Saipan, MP 96950.**

The hearing on the Petition by Luzviminda F. Arriola, as Petitioner, is scheduled to be heard on **February 16, 2016, at 1:30 p.m.** at the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. All interested persons or entities should appear at this hearing.

Any and all persons, creditors, or entities having claims against the deceased or his Estate are hereby required by law to file their claims with the Clerk of Court within sixty (60) days of this publication or the claim(s) will be baited. A copy of your daim should also be sent to **CHARITY R. HODSON, Attorney at Law, at the address herein-above indicated.**

**Dated this January, 2016.**

**/s/ Clerk of Court**
**Deputy Clerk of Court**

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**Preference:** Previous work experience in a company that specializes in prime and stand-by power generation and heavy equipments maintenance is an advantage.

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Email: jeff@elliottsystemsllc.com

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# Newton wins MVP award; Rivera gets second NFL honor

**SAN FRANCISCO** (AP)—Cam Newton is now a Super Bowl quarterback with an MVP award.

Offensive Player of the Year, too.

And his coach, Ron Rivera, owns a second NFL honor as well.

Newton, the Carolina Panthers star, won The Associated Press NFL Most Valuable Player and Offensive Player of the Year awards Saturday night.

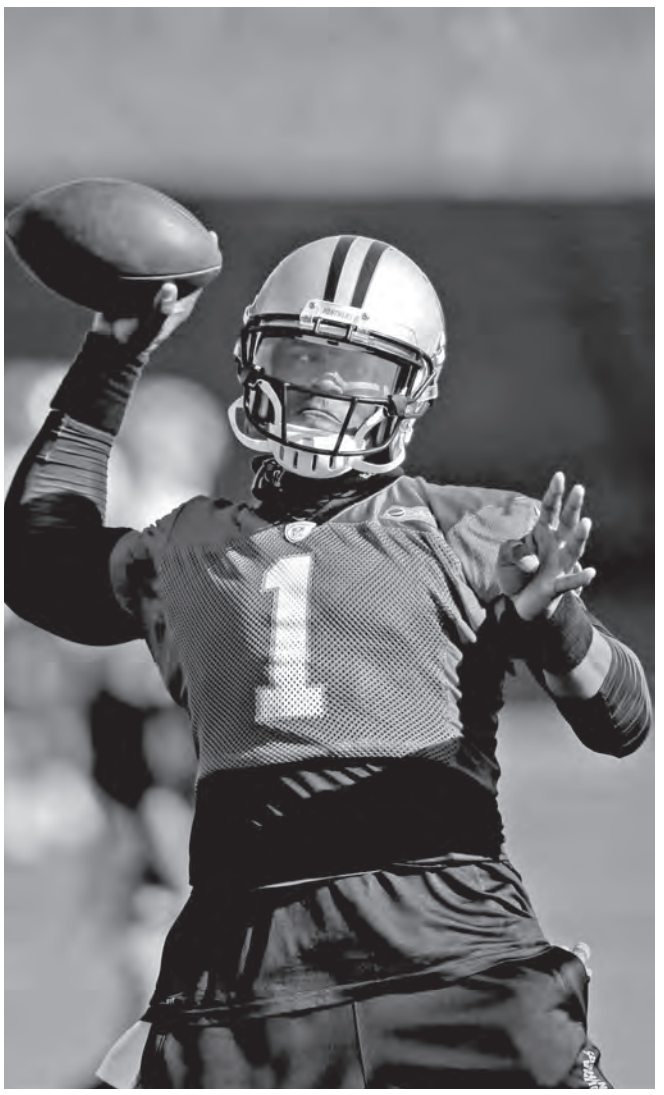
"It means so much, but not just for myself," Newton said in a video acceptance speech for the MVP award. "To be the first person in Panthers history to win it - that's what I'm most proud about. I've received a lot of awards, but to be able to get this organization here, I'm really proud. We didn't get in this position by happenstance. It took years of hard work and dedication, and now we are reaping the benefits."

Newton was not on hand at NFL Honors because he is kind of busy preparing for a little game on Sunday against Denver. But just as he has for much of the week—for most of the season, really—Newton still was a dominant figure.

His father, mother and two brothers accepted the Offensive Player award.

"Cam took an unconventional journey to get here and we're just so proud of what has happened, my family and I," said Newton's father Cecil. "So many thanks go out to so many people, from Pop Warner to the Panthers. I don't have time to tell you all, 'Thank you.' You know who you are. We know who you are."

Newton was a landslide choice for MVP with 48 votes from a nationwide panel of 50 sports writers and broadcasters who regularly cover the NFL. Fellow QBs Tom Brady and Carson Palmer each received one vote.



Carolina Panthers quarterback Cam Newton (1) throws during practice in preparation for the Super Bowl 50 football game Friday Feb. 5, 2016 in San Jose, Calif.

Newton earned 18 votes for top offensive player. Steelers receiver Antonio Brown was next with 10.

The All-Pro quarterback set an NFL mark for the position with 45 touchdowns this season: 35 passing and 10 rushing. He also ranked sixth in passer rating (99.4), while throwing for 3,837 yards. His 636 yards on the ground easily led all QBs, and the 10 touchdowns rushing were more than All-Pro running back Doug Martin of Tampa Bay scored.

Rivera led the Panthers to an unprecedented third straight NFC South title and two playoff victories. In a season featuring several outstanding coaching jobs, Rivera easily outdistanced the field. He received 36 1/2 votes, far in front of Kansas City's Andy Reid with six votes.

Rivera also won the award two years ago. He dedicated this one to his late brother, Mickey, who died recently.

"It's a tremendous award for the organization," Rivera said. "It validates everything that we've done. And again, our success always starts at the top. I really do appreciate our owner, Mr. (Jerry) Richardson, for believing in me and giving me my opportunity. Dave Gettleman and Marty Hurney - the two general managers I've worked with - I thank them for what they've done. Our coaching staff has been tremendous; our players have been outstanding."

Another outstanding player, Houston end J.J. Watt won his third Defensive Player of the Award in five pro seasons. He also won it in 2012 and last year, when he was a unanimous choice.

This time, in tying Hall of Famer Lawrence Taylor as the only players to take the award three times, Watt earned 37 votes.

"It's almost difficult to comprehend because I've only been in the league five years," Watt said. "So to think about where I've come from and where I am now and what lies ahead, those type of things it almost doesn't register because of the greatness of the guys that have come before me. So to even be considered amongst those guys is truly incredible. But I mean that's what the goal is. The goal is to come out here and try to be one of the best ever.

Watt spoke about playing football in the yard with his brothers while growing up in Wisconsin, pretending to be Packers stars Reggie White or Brett Favre.

"There might be kids out there pretending that they're wearing No. 99 is literally one of the coolest things in the entire world," Watt said. "I was a 2-star recruit ... going into college, and now I have three Defensive Player of the Year trophies, so (take that) all you guys who doubted me."

Kansas City safety Eric Berry gave an emotionally charged speech while accepting Comeback Player of the Year. At one point, his eyes welled with tears and he paused before accepting the award.

Berry missed 10 games the previous season battling lymphoma, then returned to the Chiefs to become an All-Pro. His inspirational story and superb performance on the field earned him 38 votes.

"Everybody, just live out your dreams. Don't let anything come in between," Berry said. "I'm truly honored, truly blessed, truly thankful to be standing here before you all. ... It was some tough times. It was some times where I felt like I couldn't do it anymore. ... There was a lot of rough times, a lot of rough nights, a lot of lonely nights."

And now, a rewarding night.

His teammate, cornerback Marcus Peters, took Defensive Rookie of the Year. Peters tied for the league lead with eight interceptions in helping the Chiefs make the playoffs. He received 45 votes.

Rams running back Todd Gurley took Offensive Rookie with 27 votes, well ahead of the 17 for Buccaneers QB Jameis Winston, the first overall pick in last year's draft. Gurley missed the first two games of 2015, then went on a tear that included four straight 100-yard rushing performances: 146, 159, 128 and 133 yards. He finished the season third in league rushing and scored 10 touchdowns.

## Despite troubles aplenty, NFL and Super Bowl popular as ever

**SAN FRANCISCO** (AP)—The headlines hit in a persistent stream this season, and the onslaught only grew steadier as the Super Bowl approached.

Concussions scrambling the brains of current and former players.

Fantasy football under siege.

Poor officiating. Ugly football.

A commissioner still not fully trusted by the players and public to handle it all.

And yet, with the 50th edition of the NFL's title-game extravaganza on tap Sunday, the league has never looked in better shape.

The values of TV contracts are still rising. The league is bringing at least one, and probably two, teams to Los Angeles and getting new stadiums in Minnesota and Atlanta. More than 110 million people are expected to tune in to watch the Broncos play the Panthers for the title, and when the game is over, an offseason filled with the mundane business of contract negotiations, scouting combines and training camps will draw as much or more interest than all the other U.S. sports.

Conclusion: The NFL, despite all its problems, is essentially made of Teflon.

"You look at all the things that have happened over the course of five to 10 years that would appear to have thrown bad light over the NFL," said Dennis Deninger, who teaches a class at Syracuse called The Super Bowl and Society. "And each time, the NFL has recovered and moved forward."

It's not to say there aren't issues, and that the league isn't trying to "get better," as commissioner Roger Goodell emphasized in the opening of his annual Super Bowl news conference Friday.

"To me, player safety is always going to be No. 1, no matter what else happens," said John Mara, a co-owner of the New York Giants.

The NFL has attempted to make its game safer, but the authenticity of the effort has been questioned by people both inside and out of the sport. In an Associated Press survey released last weekend, only 47 of 100 players from across the league answered "Yes" when asked if they felt NFL teams, coaches and team doctors had players' best interest in mind when it came to their health.

Meanwhile, as the much-hyped movie "Concussion," illustrated, the NFL has a credibility gap when it comes to showing it really is trying to mitigate head injuries. The NFL's own study showed a 58 percent increase in concussions in 2015 over the previous year - a result the league suggested could have come about because of better reporting.

"The game's in a good state, but I just don't know with head injuries," said Jake Plummer, the Broncos quarterback who retired suddenly in 2007, after 10 seasons in the league, which allowed him to get out while he was still relatively healthy.

"Any smart culture eventually stops playing sports that will possibly leave you debilitated," Plummer said. "So, the question is, when's that going to click, or will it ever click?"

**SIDEBAR**

## Kindred-spirit QBs Favre, Stabler voted into Hall of Fame

**SAN FRANCISCO** (AP)—The first NFL game Brett Favre ever attended, as a teenager growing up in Mississippi, was the final home game of Ken "The Snake" Stabler's career.

Favre, a New Orleans Saints fan, traveled the hour-or-so drive from home to the Superdome on that Sunday in 1984 with his father, older brother and uncle - and it was a thrill to watch a guy who electrified a stadium the way Favre himself would one day.

"All of a sudden, the crowd goes crazy, and it's because Ken Stabler poked his head out of the locker room. He had hair like mine. His was just a lot longer, kind of aged and gray," recounted Favre, wearing an all-black outfit and sporting a full white beard. "And I thought: Man, that's cool. ... It's got to be cool to be 'The Snake.' And then they lost. My dad was throwing popcorn and beer. ... I thought: Maybe it's not so good to be 'The Snake.'"

Favre and the late Stabler, a pair of kindred-spirit QBs who each won a Super Bowl, entered the Pro Football Hall of Fame together on Saturday.

Also voted in for the class of 2016 a day before the Super Bowl were modern-day players Kevin Greene, Marvin Harrison and Orlando Pace, coach Tony Dungy, contributor Ed DeBartolo Jr., and senior selection Dick Stanfel.

The freewheeling Favre, as expected, was a first-ballot entry, a reward for a long and distinguished career, mostly with the Green Bay Packers, that included three consecutive NFL MVP awards from 1995-97 and a championship in the 1997 Super Bowl.

"As a kid, all I ever dreamed of was to play pro football, to be Roger Staubach or to be Archie Manning. That's what I dreamed of. I hated Terry Bradshaw, which I told him," Favre said with a smile.

Stabler, a left-hander who earned his nickname for his ability to slither past defenders, goes into the Hall as a senior selection about six months after dying of colon cancer at age 69 - and just days after researchers said his brain showed widespread signs of chronic traumatic encephalopathy (CTE).

Stabler, the 1974 NFL MVP, was represented at Saturday's announcement by two of his grandsons, 17-year-old twins Justin and Jack Moyes. Each brother wore one of Grandpa's bling-filled rings: Justin's was from the 1977 Super Bowl with the Oakland Raiders; Jack's was from a college national championship with Alabama.

# Warriors top Thunder, win 41st straight home game

**OAKLAND, Calif.** (AP)—Stephen Curry scored 26 points, Harrison Barnes added 19 and the Golden State Warriors won their 41st straight regular-season home game, beating the Oklahoma City Thunder 116-108 on Saturday night.

Klay Thompson added 18 and the Warriors (46-4) won their ninth straight game to match the 1966-67 Philadelphia 76ers for the best record ever after 50 games. Golden State moved within three wins of tying the Chicago Bulls (1995-96) for the longest home winning streak in NBA history.

Kevin Durant had 40 points and 14 rebounds and Russell Westbrook added 27 points and 12 assists for the Thunder, who had won five straight and 12 of 13.

One day before he plans to watch good friend Cam Newton and the Carolina Panthers take on Denver in the Super Bowl at nearby Levi's Stadium, Curry helped the Warriors break out to a 20-point lead in the second quarter on their way to another win against a top-notch team.

### Trail Blazers 96, Rockets 79

In Houston, Damian Lillard had 21 points and 10 assists to lead a balanced scoring attack and the Trail Blazers built a big lead early and rolled to an easy win over the Rockets.

The Trail Blazers were up by 19 at halftime and scored the first six points of the third quarter to make it 61-36 with about 10 minutes left in the quarter.

James Harden made four quick points after that before the Trail Blazers used a 13-2 run -- with 3s from Lillard, C.J. McCollum and Al-Farouq Aminu -- to push the lead to 74-42.

The Rockets scored the last 11 points of the quarter, with the first nine from Harden, to cut the lead to 74-53 entering the fourth. But Portland opened the fourth with an 8-2 spurt.

Harden led the Rockets with 33 points.

### Pacers 112, Pistons 104

In Indianapolis, Paul George scored 30 points to help the Pacers hold on for a win over the Pistons.

Indiana (27-24) nearly squandered a 20-point third quarter lead, but held on thanks to five missed free throws from Andre Drummond in the game's final 3:30. Leading 104-100 with just more than a minute to play, Monta Ellis and George Hill hit the two shots Indiana needed to seal the win.

Reggie Jackson led Detroit (27-25) with 26 points. Anthony Tolliver scored a season-high 17 points. Drummond finished with 10 points and 13 rebounds for his 43rd double-double through 52 games.

George Hill scored 17 points and Myles Turner added 16 for the Pacers.

### Hornets 108, Wizards 104

In Charlotte, Nicolas Batum had 26 points and 11 rebounds, and the Hornets rallied in the second half to beat the Wizards.

Kemba Walker added 23 points, Marvin Williams also had a double-double with 13 points and 10 rebounds, and Spencer Hawes scored 14 points for the Hornets, who trailed by as many as 19 points in the second quarter.

John Wall scored 23 points, Bradley Beal had 22 and Otto Porter Jr. 20 for the Wizards, who led 58-48 at the half and were up by 12 points early in the third quarter.

Washington led 64-52 with 8:44 left in the quarter, but Charlotte went on to outscore the Wizards 26-11 over the rest of the period for a 78-75 lead. The Wizards rallied in the fourth quarter, swapping the lead four times with the Hornets before Walker's layup with 2:13 remaining put the Hornets ahead to stay.

### Cavaliers 99, Pelicans 94

In Cleveland, Kyrie Irving scored 29 points, LeBron James added 27 and the Cavaliers bounced back from two straight losses with a win over the Pelicans.

Irving and James combined for 17 points in the fourth quarter as Cleveland improved to 6-3 since Tyronn Lue replaced David Blatt as head coach on Jan. 22.

Kevin Love was out with a bruised left thigh, but the Cavaliers went ahead early in the game and never gave up the lead despite a strong rally by New Orleans in the second half.

Norris Cole scored a career-high 26 points while Anthony Davis scored 24 points with 11 rebounds for New Orleans, which has lost four straight.

Cleveland nearly blew a 15-point lead for the second straight night. The Cavaliers were ahead 54-39 late in the second quarter, but the Pelicans cut the lead to four on several occasions in the second half.

### Sixers 103, Nets 98

In Philadelphia, Jahlil Okafor had 22 points and 17 rebounds and Nerlens Noel added 18 points, including a key dunk late in the fourth quarter, to lead the 76ers to a victory over the Nets.

Rookie T.J. McConnell, filling in for injured point guard Ish Smith, tied his career-high with 17 points to go with six assists for the 76ers, who earned their eighth win of the season while snapping a four-game losing streak.

Thaddeus Young scored all 22 of his points after halftime for Brooklyn, which was trying to win consecutive games for the first time since Dec. 10. Young added 10 rebounds and Brook Lopez had 17 points for the Nets. Markel Brown, who entered averaging just 2.5 per game, was perfect from the field while setting a season-high with 15 points for the Nets. Brown made all five of his shots, including three 3-pointers.

### Timberwolves 112, Bulls 105

In Minneapolis, Andrew Wiggins scored six of his 21 points in the final 90 seconds to help the Timberwolves surge past the Bulls.

Trailing by five with 2:30 to play, the Wolves closed the game with a 12-0 surge to win it. Wiggins scored the final six of the run, including a pullup jumper with 20 seconds to go that gave them a five-point lead. Karl-Anthony Towns had 26 points and 17 rebounds and Gorgui Dieng added a career-high 24 points, 13 rebounds and seven assists for the Wolves, who have won two in a row.

Pau Gasol had 25 points and eight rebounds and Derrick Rose had 18 points, 10 assists and five rebounds for the Bulls in their first game without All-Star guard Jimmy Butler, how strained his left knee on Friday night against Denver.

There is no timetable for Butler's return, but the team was encouraged when an MRI showed no structural damage to his knee.

### Spurs 106, Lakers 102

In San Antonio, LaMarcus Aldridge scored 26 points and the Spurs beat the Lakers to remain unbeaten at home.

Kawhi Leonard added 20 points and 13 rebounds to help the Spurs win their 28th straight home game to open the season. The Spurs' 37th straight home victory dating back to last season was surprisingly difficult.

Kobe Bryant scored 25 points in his final appearance in San Antonio. The Lakers (11-42) are 5-24 on the road this season, but one last hurrah for Bryant in San Antonio was what they needed to nearly upset the Spurs.

Bryant spent much of his career tormenting the Spurs and he did so again after a sluggish start. He finished 9 for 28 from the field, but was 7 for 18 in a dynamic second half that electrified a pro-Bryant crowd.

### Jazz 98, Suns 89

In Phoenix, Rodney Hood scored 25 points, Gordon Hayward added 22 and the Jazz stretched their season-long winning streak to six games with a victory over the reeling Suns.

The Suns lost their seventh straight and are 2-22 in their last 24 games.

### Mavericks 114, Grizzlies 110, OT

In Memphis, Chandler Parsons scored 26 points, including a pair of 3-pointers in overtime, to lead the Mavericks to a victory over the Grizzlies.

Dirk Nowitzki's 21-foot jumper with 16.6 seconds left pushed the Dallas lead to 112-109, and the Mavericks held on to snap a three-game losing streak.

AP

Golden State Warriors' Stephen Curry (30) goes up between Oklahoma City Thunder's Russell Westbrook, left, and Enes Kanter during the second half of an NBA basketball game, Saturday, Feb. 6, 2016, in Oakland, Calif. The Warriors beat the Thunder, 116-108.

# Arrieta agrees to $10.7M, one-year deal with Cubs

**CHICAGO** (AP)—Jake Arrieta and the Chicago Cubs found a number that worked in the canyon between their arbitration proposals.

Arrieta has agreed to a $10.7 million, one-year contract for the highest one-year deal for a pitcher eligible for arbitration for the second time.

A person familiar with the negotiations disclosed the agreement on Friday night. The person spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity because the contract had not been announced by the team.

Arrieta, who turns 30 in March, had a breakout season last year, helping the Cubs to an NL wild card. The NL Cy Young Award winner finished with a 22-6 record and a 1.77 ERA, easily cruising past most of his previous career highs.

The right-hander was rewarded with a $7.07 million raise. His deal tops David Price's salary of $10,112,500 with Tampa Bay in 2013.

The settlement was $450,000 above the midpoint of the arbitration numbers exchanged by the sides on Jan. 15. Arrieta asked for $13 million and the team had offered $7.5 million.

Arrieta and the Cubs had the largest gap among players who swapped figures with their clubs on Jan. 15, but president of baseball operations Theo Epstein said last month he was confident the sides would reach an agreement before a hearing.

"I think, you know, in this case, if you focus on the spread, you're kind of missing the story, which is that I think it provides a lot of room for further discussion," he said at the team's winter convention.

The Cubs' July 2013 trade for Arrieta was a key moment in their move from the bottom of the NL Central to 97 wins last season and a spot in the NL Championship Series, where they were swept by the New York Mets.

Chicago traded pitcher Scott Feldman and catcher Steve Clevenger to Baltimore for Arrieta and reliever Pedro Strop. Arrieta went 10-5 with a 2.53 ERA in his first full season with the Cubs, and then was dominant for much of last year.

# Leicester stuns Man City to stretch EPL lead, Spurs go 2nd

**LONDON** (AP)—With a 3-1 win at Manchester City, Leicester showed why it really could be lifting the English Premier League trophy for the first time in May.

From 5,000/1 outsiders for the title in August, Leicester became the 7/4 favorite with several British bookmakers on Saturday after going five points clear at the top.

"I don't believe in the bookmakers," Leicester manager Claudio Ranieri said. "The bookmakers at the beginning said Ranieri would be the first to be sacked. Then?"

Then, Leicester went on to lose only two out of 25 league games and to close in on the most astonishing title challenge in the modern English game.

City's home loss to Leicester was compounded by Tottenham edging Watford 1-0 and replacing Manuel Pellegrini's team in second place.

Both games saw defenders scoring rare goals, with Kieran Trippier netting for the first time for Tottenham, and Robert Huth claiming a double for Leicester.

City conceded after only three minutes to Leicester, with Huth pouncing on the ball after Riyad Mahrez's free kick bounced through the penalty area. Mahrez started the second half by powering a shot past goalkeeper Joe Hart before Huth netted again on the hour.

City, whose Abu Dhabi investment fueled 2012 and 2014 title triumphs, has failed at six opportunities to beat any of the top six teams this season.

AP

Leicester City's Robert Huth, hidden, celebrates with teammates after scoring his side's third goal of the game during the English Premier League soccer match at the Etihad Stadium, Manchester. England, Saturday Feb. 6, 2016.

"It was our chance at home to recover the lead in the table. We couldn't do it," said Pellegrini, who will be replaced by Pep Guardiola at the end of the season.

When Ranieri took over a Leicester team that came close to being relegated last season, the former Chelsea manager's mission was just keeping Leicester in the top-flight.

Now the Italian's mission is downplaying giddy talk of Leicester winning the league.

"I am sorry because we know it's a crazy league and we have to try in this crazy league and there are some big teams who have to win," Ranieri said. "We just enjoy it. We don't believe anything. We want to fight of course but without pressure.

"For us, it is important to play and to continue in this way because it's a strange league."

Strange sums the season perfectly.

No pundit predicted Chelsea would be lying 13th—without Jose Mourinho—and preparing for a game on Sunday against a Manchester United side in fifth place.

Unthinkable five years ago was the prospect of protests by Liverpool fans against club owner the Fenway Sports Group, which ended the despised Anfield reign of American duo Tom Hicks and George Gillett Jr.

But the jubilant scenes that greeted the October 2010 takeover seemed a distant memory on Saturday as thousands of Liverpool fans walked out of the ground in the 77th minute of the game against Sunderland to protest some ticket prices rising to 77 pounds ($112).

In the 77th minute, Liverpool was leading 2-0 after goals from Roberto Firmino and Adam Lallana, but Adam Johnson and Jermain Defoe both netted for Sunderland in in the final 10 minutes to grab a point for the strugglers.

Liverpool manager Juergen Klopp missed the game with appendicitis.

Liverpool was overtaken by crosstown rival Everton, which moved into eighth place by winning at Stoke 3-0.

Aston Villa won for only the third time this season but remained bottom despite beating Norwich 2-0. Sunderland is four points ahead of Villa next-from-bottom.

Norwich replaced Newcastle in the relegation zone, with the north-east side beating West Bromwich Albion 1-0.

On the south coast, Maya Yoshida put Southampton ahead against West Ham and the hosts survived Victor Wanyama being sent off for a lunge on Dimitri Payet in the 54th minute to win 1-0. Southampton is two points behind sixth-place West Ham.

Crystal Palace halted a run of five successive league losses by drawing at Swansea 1-1.

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finally escaped with a 12-10 win to set up a semis date against Isabel Heras at the top half of the draw. Heras got a bye in the opening week.

At the lower half of the draw, it will be Grace Choi versus Tania Tan. Choi bagged a free pass to the semifinals as Ami Tsukagoshi is sick and could not play in the last weekend's games, while Tan ousted Conatsu, 6-1, 6-1.

In other results, Andy Jung, Anika Camacho, and Thaileena Raulserson made it to the win column of the U10 singles, which has a round-robin format.

Jung topped Hyun Jin Joo in yesterday's pro-set match in the boys U10 singles, 8-1 to post the first win in the division. The remaining games will be played this weekend with Joo hoping to bounce back with a victory against Min Gi Jung.

In the girls division, Camacho outclassed Yae Jin Son, 8-2, while Raulerson defeated JC Ferrer in similar scores. Four more matches are scheduled in the girls U10 singles this weekend before the division champion is decided, while results of other events will be reported in *Saipan Tribune* on Tuesday and Wednesday.

## ARIES FC

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some scoring chances during the game," Northern Mariana Islands Football Association technical director and CNMI coach Kiyoshi Sekiguchi said.

"We lost to Aries FC, 0-5, last year. But this year, they won, 2-1. The results showed we are improving a lot," Sekiguchi added.

Aries FC faced the CNMI Boys U18 National Team in last year's friendly game and dominated possession en route to a shutout victory against the hosts.

Meanwhile, the Blue Ayuyus listed 19 players on their roster in their match against Aries FC last weekend. Joining Mafnas, Abragan, and Shankweiller on the lineup were Sunjoon Tenorio, Mareko Tekopua, Evan Belcher, Ryu Tanzawa, Alex Park, Joel Fruit, Jonathan Capayas, Ryan Relucio, Alan Hinson, Trey Dunn, James Ermitanio, John Diego Masga, Joshua De Leon, Kennedy Izuka, and goalie Joshua Galarion.

Majority of the players in the pool that played against Aries FC were in the 14 to 19 age group and were selected based on their performance in the group's previous training sessions. There are over 30 players on the pool and they will face two more Japanese teams this month to prepare for the East Asian Football Federation East Asian Cup 2016 Preliminary Round 1 that will be held in July.

# FIFA candidates Prince Ali, Infantino claim votes in Africa

**GENEVA** (AP)—Two FIFA voters have defied African soccer leaders by endorsing rival candidates in the presidential election for Sepp Blatter's successor.

South Sudan pledged its vote for Gianni Infantino, the UEFA general secretary from Switzerland, and Liberia declared for former FIFA vice president Prince Ali of Jordan on Saturday.

They followed Egypt, which Prince Ali said publicly promised its vote to him on Friday, hours after a key move by the Confederation of African Football's executive committee. It urged Africa's 54 FIFA voters to support Asian confederation president Sheikh Salman of Bahrain in the Feb. 26 election.

Africa, led by FIFA acting president Issa Hayatou of Cameroon, is a main battleground in the race to replace the suspended Blatter. Widespread support there for Sheikh Salman could lift him to the biggest tally in the first round of voting in a ballot that has five candidates.

Independence shown by South Sudan and Liberia suggests again that claims of unanimous continent-wide support are rarely true in FIFA elections.

"We are supporting Mr. Gianni Infantino for the FIFA presidency," South Sudan federation president Chabur Goc Alei told The Associated Press in a telephone interview. "Any (voter) has the right to choose whoever they want. It is not compulsory from CAF telling any member association he has to vote for Sheikh Salman."

Infantino gained South Sudan's support after meeting with Alei and federation leaders in the capital city Juba on Saturday.

"He will be the first of many others in this great continent," said Infantino, who has voting pledges in four of FIFA's six continental confederations.

Prince Ali's campaign team on Saturday published a three-page letter of endorsement signed by Liberia federation president Musa Bility.

Bility wrote that Prince Ali "represents real change," while other candidates were "not even prepared to criticize" the FIFA system.

"He demonstrated this by standing against President Sepp Blatter when it was unthinkable to do so," Bility wrote, referring to the prince's 133-73 loss to Blatter last May. Days later, Blatter announced his exit plans under pressure from American and Swiss federal investigations of corruption in international soccer.

"Deeply honoured by the support of Liberia as we work across the world to bring the change needed for FIFA's future," Prince Ali wrote on his Twitter account.

Bility was himself an applicant last October in the presidential contest. He then failed an integrity test judged by FIFA's election monitoring committee, which did not publish reasons for barring him.

Sheikh Salman has been seen as the election front-runner with public support from the executive committees of the African and Asian confederations. The two continents have 100 of the 209 FIFA members.

Infantino has been backed by the leadership of UEFA, CONMEBOL, and the small CONCACAF confederation.

South Sudan's Alei said Infantino's pledge of financial support from FIFA for smaller regional groups to organize youth tournaments was key to his federation's endorsement.

"The proposal of Gianni is the only solution for the future of football in Africa and the whole world," Alei told the AP.

The other candidates are former FIFA official Jerome Champagne of France, and South African businessman Tokyo Sexwale, whose campaign has been consistently resisted by fellow Africans in FIFA.

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and Josh Nelson (41:52/2K).

In the 1K course, Jinie was first out of the water and submitted 15:57, while Dominic Zedde placed second, but was the first male finisher in the division with his 17:24. Joining Jinie and Zedde in the Top 5 were Ayaka Sato (17:28), Jack Stewart (18:40) and Savita Sikkel (19:40).

Savita's father Richard also completed the one-loop swim and finished sixth with his 19:41. Other swimmers who did the 1K event were Ayano Braxton (22:20), Mamiko Berger (22:13), Aoi Braxton (22:20), Fr. Ryan Jimenez (23:05), and John Moreno (28:36).

In the shortest course of the race—the 200m—Kengo timed in at 4:05 to beat Zeno Iwami (4:22) and Cojiro Kaga (4:10).

Meanwhile, SSC will have one more event this month with the staging of the 2016 SSC Pentathlon at the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool in Marpi on Feb. 20. Times in the tournament will be considered for CNMI age group and national records.

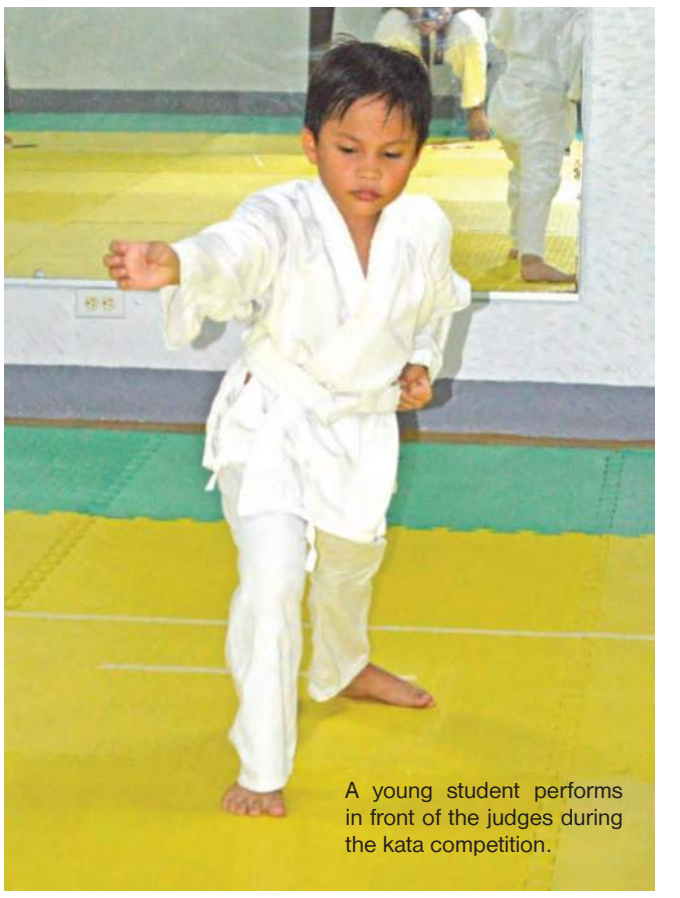
SSC will then close out the first quarter of 2016 by hosting two more events next month. The club will have the SSC International Invitational Meet on March 17 to 19 and the Saipan Ocean Swim on March 20.

# Kyokushinkai Karate Sparring and Kata Competition

**PHOTOS By ROSELYN B. MONROYO**

A Kyokushinkai Karate student demonstrates some movements during the 2016 Kyokushinkai Karate Sparring and Kata Competition held last month in Paseo De Marianas.

A female student shows a basic kata movement.



A young student performs in front of the judges during the kata competition.

Judge Peter Crisostomo watches a student perform kata movements.

A young female student follows the cue of her teacher.

A student demonstrates one of kata steps.

A student tries to impress the judges with his kata movements.

A student goes for a front kick.

Participants in the competition wait for their turn to demonstrate kata movements, while their parents watch other performers.

Newton wins MVP award; Rivera gets second NFL honor

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# Gregoire eases way into semifinals

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Maria Gregoire returns to Maaya Sato during their girls U14 singles game in the 2016 White Coconut Tennis Classic yesterday at the Pacific Islands Club hard courts.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Maria Gregoire cruised to the semifinals of the girls U14 singles division of the 2016 White Coconut Tennis Classic following a shutout win against Maaya Sato yesterday at the Pacific Islands Club hard court.

The easy victory against Sato earned Gregoire a Final Four showdown against Asia Raulerson, who got a bye in Week 1 of the two-weekend tournament. Also arranging their semis duel were Erika Tuttle and Coume Kaga as they prevailed in their respective matches at the lower half of the draw. The semis and the finals will be played this weekend.

Tuttle dominated the debuting Rei Sekiguchi yesterday, 6-1, 6-0, while Kaga took two sets, too to eliminate Riko Ojima, 6-0, 6-4.

Incidentally, Tuttle, Kaga, and Gregoire were also in the semifinals of last year's girls U12 singles before they moved up to a higher age group in the new season, while Raulerson competed in the girls U14 for the first time in 2015 and finished fourth behind champion Mimi Sakano, runner-up Malika Miyawaki, and third placer Conatsu Kaga.

Miyawaki, Sakano, and Conatsu are now playing in the girls U16 singles with the former the only one to make it to the semifinals this year. Miyawaki was pitted against Sakano in the quarterfinals and needed three sets to slip past the latter and march into the Final Four. Miyawaki won the opening set, 6-3, but failed to close out the match early as Sakano came back with a tough 7-5 victory to force the supertiebreaker third set. In the deciding set, Miyawaki and Sakano still went back and forth before the former

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## 31 complete Meek and Mighty swim

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
From left, Jinju Thompson, Salofi Welch, and R.J. Pierce rush to the shore to complete the 3K race in the 2016 SSC Meek and Mighty Ocean Swim held in the waters off Pacific Islands Club.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Thirty-one finished the 2016 SSC Meek and Mighty Ocean Swim held last Saturday in the waters off Pacific Islands Club.

The weekend swim featured three courses with Saipan Swim Club's Kento Akimaru, Jinie Thompson, and Kengo Sato leading their respective distances.

Kento was the first to complete the three-loop 3K course after clocking in at 34:05. Lennosuke Suzuki came in next at 35:16, while Christian Villacrusis rounded out the Top 3 with his 35:29, just four seconds ahead of Taiga Sato (35:33).

David Boyer was ranked fifth after timing in at 35:58 and was followed by Jinnosuke Suzuki (37:09), Caleb Wang (38:31), Salofi Welch (39:09), Jinju Thompson (39:10), R.J. Pierce (39:11). Other finishers were Taiyo Akimaru (39:21), Wataru Kadokura (53:30 with fins), Dino Sato (55:14), Atsuko Sato (55:26), Will Schroeder (57:08), Joshua Berger (58:14), Tiffany Lin (59:49),

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## Aries FC nips Blue Ayuyus, 2-1

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

A better CNMI team played against Aries FC as the visiting squad from Japan won by only a point, 2-1, in their friendly game last Saturday at the Oleai Sports Complex Field.

Takuta Ito and Toshi Hagasawa scored for Aries FC, while Chad Shankweiller hit the board for the Commonwealth, which was represented my members of the CNMI Men's National training pool players.

Ito drew first blood with his goal in the 41st, while Shankweiller nailed the equalizer, thanks to a feed from Yoshi Mafnas. The duo teamed up in giving the Blue Ayuyus their only goal in the friendly with Mafnas attacking to the left mid and Shankweiller sprinting on the opposite side before moving in near the center and receiving the timely pass from the former for the goal that came in the 60th minute.

The game remained tied for the next 15 minutes before Hasagawa broke the deadlock with his shot in the 76th. The CNMI had a chance to force a standoff anew with a couple of attempts, including the closest one from Joshua Abragan, who unloaded a shot near the spot where Shankweiller converted his. However, Abragan's kick was a bit soft with the Aries FC goalie managing to push the ball out and foil the Blue Ayuyus' bid for a draw in the closing minutes of the match.

"The game yesterday against Aries FC was very excited because our team played very aggressive both on offense and defense. We made

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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
CNMI and Aries FC players pose with game officials before their friendly game last Saturday at the Oleai Sports Complex Field.